Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 31, Issue 4
APRIL 2023

Swing Dance

SC-bred Swayin to and Fro wins Gr. 3 Barbara Fritchie

From beginning. . .

Ellen B. Pons

Such excitement on Maryland's oldest Thoroughbred farm during foaling season. Pictured above is Mike and Marie Trombetta's Feb. 26th filly by Independence Hall (who Mike trained to graded stakes wins). At right is our latest Broodmare partnership purchase: the $260,000-earner Jennemily, who foaled a Bolt d'Oro filly on March 2.

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. . . the leading earner among progeny of 4th-crop sires in Maryland to date is Mosler's daughter Response Time, whose career earnings of $360,000 include this 3¼-length $78,400 allowance win on February 24 for trainer Hamilton Smith and owners Dave and Lori Hughes of Mens Grille Racing. Response Time was bred by Country Life.

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Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

— Set List —

Queen of South Carolina

South Carolina-bred Swayin to and Fro becomes a graded stakes winner with hometown score in the Grade 3 Barbara Fritchie at Laurel Park. By John Piassek. Page 32

Creating success in Pennsylvania

Tom Coulter's Arrowwood Farm breeds winners (such as multiple stakes winner Nimitz Class) in Pennsylvania, and reaches up the leaderboard as an owner at Penn National. By Tom Law. Page 36

Health Notes: Rotavirus B matters

From the region to Kentucky and beyond, Rotavirus B should be a concern for breeders; planning ahead can help. By Jen Roytz. Page 40

Trackside – Laurel Park

Maryland-bred veteran Eastern Bay comes through – for everybody – in the Grade 3 General George as Laurel pays tribute to jockey Avery Whisman. By John Piassek. Page 48

Trackside – Parx

LC Racing's Glenn Bennett finds stakes success with Ninetyprcentmaddie as Pennsylvania-breds power through March stakes at track. By Paul Halloran. Page 52

On our cover: Swayin to and Fro became the first South Carolina-bred to win a graded stakes in the United States when she captured Laurel Park's Barbara Fritchie in February. *Photo by Lydia A. Williams*

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Speightstown–Northern Station, by Street Cry (Ire)

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Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

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Post Time

CORNER KICK. Mini and James Wyatt (left) dig in late to catch Goose (center, Carly Kern) and Georgie Boy (Yomar Ortiz Jr.) in the large pony race at the Rappahannock Point-to-Point in Virginia March 4, the first of the 2023 season. *Douglas Lees*

Say It Again

"Yeah, training, it's a lot of fun."
Mark Beecher, on the vagaries of training racehorses

"The yearlings have been going along so nicely, but we're going to look like Cowtown Rodeo on Saturday morning."
Trainer Kate Dalton, on an expected cold morning after a warm spell in South Carolina

"When you've got short money you can't run around with teams of guys with notebooks."
Trainer Andy Simoff, on shopping for yearlings in the back ring of an auction

"The first race I ever rode in, I finished fourth with a 60-1 shot, and to my left was Pat Day, and to my right was Jerry Bailey, so my legs and knees were shaking."
Jockey Richard Monterrey, about starting out at Gulfstream Park in 2003 (actually, he was fifth at 102-1)

Names of the Month

Romantic Comedy. The 4-year-old filly, who won at Delaware Park and Laurel Park last year, is by Practical Joke out of Loveyou Everybody.

Siente La Brisa. Joe Stehr's West Virginia-bred 4-year-old filly is by Siente El Trueno (Feel The Thunder in English) out of Breezy Arch. Her Spanish name translates to Feel The Breeze in English. She won at Charles Town in January.

Viral Video. Prima Ventures' 4-year-old gelding, bred by Spring Run Farm in Pennsylvania, is out of Cyber Cafe.

Super Bowl Correction

It seems Suzanne Moscarelli is a bit too much of a Washington football fan. Her citizenship moment (part of last month's magazine) came before the New York Giants won Super Bowl XXV. Washington won the next one. *Special thanks to The Jockey Club president Jim Gagliano for setting us straight.*

Go Figure

2 Races won in three days by Maryland-bred steeplechaser Inkslinger at the 1973 Cheltenham Festival in England.

117 Races won by the 16 runners in the Barbara Fritchie and General George Stakes at Laurel Park Feb. 18.

63 Races won by the seven runners (22 for Ruby Bleu) in the Washington Crossing Stakes at Parx Racing March 7.

14 Times Social Group has been claimed in 35 career starts (through March 14).

5,000 Dollars contributed to the Food Bank of Delaware by Delaware Park in February.

205.80 Dollars earned for a $2 win bet on Rascally Rebel, who captured Laurel Park's fifth race Feb. 20. The 3-year-old Maryland-bred Divining Rod gelding had lost all 12 starts leading to the victory for owner Robert Reidy and trainer Mario Serey Jr.

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FORTUNE TICKET

Candy Ride (Arg)–Quiet Giant, by Giant's Causeway

FULL BROTHER TO LEADING SIRE GUN RUNNER

Second-crop sire **GUN RUNNER** has nearly twice the earners of his closest competitor in the 2022 sophomore sire race. Horse of the year earned over $15.9 million. Two-time winner Fortune Ticket is from a solid sire-producing Ned Evans family. First foals arrive in 2023. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

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‘Poe’ flies high on Twitter, track

JIM MCCUE

Voodoo Mama Juju, a social-media phenomenon, strikes a pose with her people in the Laurel Park winner’s circle.

Anyone who has raced a homebred knows what a thrill it is just to have your horse make it to the races. It’s a long process from foaling to weaning to breaking, and the odds are long against making it to the starting gate, so when a homebred wins, there’s nothing quite like it.

Racing fans on Twitter have lived the experience through Maryland-bred 3-year-old Voodoo Mama Juju, aka “Poe.” Her owner and breeder, Designated Hitters Racing, chronicled her life on social media and she broke her maiden on the General George/Barbara Fritchie undercard at Laurel Park Feb. 18. The race replay posted by TVG had been viewed more than 9,000 times as of March 1, and a celebration video posted by Chris Brown, a member of Designated Hitters who serves as the group’s liaison on social media, had more than 10,000 views.

Rarely do you see a $30,000 maiden claiming race get that much attention, but Poe built up quite a following.

It all started when Designated Hitters, led by Dan Heim, claimed Fingerpaint for $5,000 at Laurel Park in March 2019.

Heim sent Brown a one-word text, “Broodmare?” The joke took a step closer to reality when Chris’ wife Katie, who worked at Mantua Farm and had the most experience on the breeding side of racing, took an interest.

“We were sitting at [Laurel’s clubhouse restaurant] Tips prior to her race and still had not even made the decision,” said Chris Brown. “When Katie saw a beautiful flashy chestnut filly, we all just kind of looked at each other and said, ‘Are we doing this?’ ”

The answer was yes. The claim slip was dropped and Fingerpaint was retired after finishing third. Although she won just once in 17 starts, the daughter of Union Rags and the Tapit mare Autumn Ash had sold for $250,000 as a 2-year-old and made her debut at Saratoga.

Fingerpaint was bred to Northview Stallion Station’s Hoppertunity, and the ensuing filly was foaled at Willowdale Farm April 10, 2020. She received her nickname from Alice Peirce, the barn manager at Mantua, where the filly grew up.

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CANDY RIDE – QUIET GIANT
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Photo by Lydia Williams

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Peirce had nicknamed a Mantua-bred colt on the farm "Cyrus" after a wild character in the 1997 movie *Con Air*.

As Brown put it: "If Cyrus was going to have a best friend to grow up with, why not keep the theme with Cameron Poe [the main character of the movie], aka 'Poe.' "

Her Jockey Club name is a reference to the television show *The Office*, of which Chris and Katie are fans. Cyrus and Poe grew up in the same pasture at Mantua, and Cyrus went viral in July 2020 for his rolling antics, or lack thereof.

"I can't stop laughing at him. He is so angry everyone knows how to roll in the sand, and he just can't," Brown said in a video showing Cyrus growing increasingly irritated at his inability to roll. The video has been viewed more than 106,000 times and has more than 2,000 likes on Twitter.

"While Cyrus stole the show, people started to take note of Poe's personality as well," said Brown. "As a foal, she was, for lack of a better word, mean. It took a long time to earn her trust."

Soon, Poe developed a following, with Brown's hashtag #GoPoeGo adorning dozens of tweets about the filly and her progress. The popularity grew to the point where the story was depicted in a children's book written by Chris Brown: *Roll Cyrus Roll, the Adventures of Cyrus the Colt*, which came out in the spring of 2021.

In time, Poe moved to a separate pasture at Mantua with other fillies, went to Virginia for certification, did some early work at Middleburg, Va., and To Win Again Farm in Woodbine, Md., and finally joined the Rudy Sanchez-Solomon barn last May to begin preparations for her racing career.

"Picking a trainer is just another level of stress," said Brown. "What attracts us so much to Rudy is he's a horseman. He basically lives at the barn, and there's a trust that the horse is most important. I also absolutely love Joanne Shankle, Rudy's assistant. Rudy is the eternal optimist, and Joanne says it straight and brings you back to the ground."

Poe returned to the farm in the fall to grow further, then went back to Sanchez-Solomon in November as she inched closer to making it to the track.

"We did something that I'm not sure had ever really been done: we documented from birth all the way to racing on social media," said Brown. "I'm not going to pretend we ever knew she could win a race. In fact, as time went by, we learned every single day how hard it was to even get to a race let alone win. You have all these huge dreams, but then you have to stay realistic. It crept into my head tons of times: 'What if we showcased these horses their whole life and they never even run?' "

Poe continued to mature and was set for her debut in a 7-furlong $20,000 maiden claiming race at Laurel Feb. 10. Well behind early, she closed late to finish fourth. Eight days later, the stage was set for her second start, and her first appearance around two turns. At 7-1, she rated off the pace, moved wide on the final turn, struck the front entering the stretch, and held clear late. For Brown and the crew, the feeling was indescribable.

"Tears were definitely flowing from a few of us as she came down the stretch," said Brown. "Not going to lie, I dreamed in my head a hundred times her winning and how it might feel. We have won races before of course. But nothing at all compared so far to winning with a racehorse you made and have helped raise since Day One. I think sometimes it does sound a bit silly, but I don't think the average person really does understand how hard it is to win in this game. People are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars and never getting to see this result. We took the long road from claiming a broodmare prospect to winning a race and it feels pretty awesome. It makes us look like we knew what we were doing, even though the truth is we were learning from mistakes every single step."

Designated Hitters is excited about Poe's future. Her half-sibling, by Blofeld, is due at the end of the month. As for Mantua Farm's Cyrus, whose Jockey Club name is Imstillhere, he's still on the farm maturing.

"He's a big guy with no rush. I would expect him to get into training this spring," Brown said. "If things don't work out on the track he'll have an amazing life at Mantua Farm."

– John Piassek

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Milestones

Presented:

To Maryland resident Michael Dickinson by the University of Louisville's Equine Industry Program, the 33rd John W. Galbreath Award for outstanding entrepreneurship in the equine industry. A trainer in his native England and the United States, Dickinson has over the past two decades developed and refined Tapeta Footings, an all-weather synthetic material designed to improve safety for both equine and human athletes. Tapeta 10, the latest version of Tapeta Footings, has substantially reduced equine fatalities and outperformed conventional dirt and turf surfaces. Tapeta surfaces have been installed at Turfway Park in Kentucky and at Gulfstream Park in Florida, Golden Gate Fields in California, Presque Isle Downs in Pennsylvania, Woodbine Racetrack in Canada as well as Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland and other facilities in Canada, Australia, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. "I am honored and flattered to receive the Galbreath Award," Dickinson said. "The safety of the horse has always been a long-term goal of mine ever since I was a child when on small ponies I had to keep up with my mother who was on a Grade A international showjumper. We used to jump post and rail fences, some with ditches and drops, and stone walls. Since then, I've always felt very grateful and indebted to all the horses I rode." Dickinson was a champion steeplechase jockey and trainer prior to becoming a successful trainer of flat horses. Since coming to the U.S. in 1987, he has won more than 80 stakes races including two victories in the Breeders' Cup Mile-G1 with Da Hoss. "We are excited to present the 2022 Galbreath Award to Michael Dickinson for his contribution to the sport of racing through the creation of Tapeta and synthetic track surfaces," said K. Amy Lawyer, assistant professor and chair of UofL's Department of Equine Administration. "The nature of the Galbreath Award is to recognize innovation and business efforts that move the equine industry forward. Mr. Dickinson's business achievements added a new element to a sport that had been largely unchanged for centuries." The award is named for the late John W. Galbreath, who distinguished himself in both business and as a horseman. Previous recipients include Dogwood Stable's Cot Campbell, Breeders' Cup founder John Gaines, Old Friends Equine founder Michael Blowen, Spendthrift Farm's B. Wayne Hughes, veterinarians Bill Rood and Tom Riddle and TVG/Exacta Systems founder Tom Aronson.

Hired:

By Virginia racetrack Colonial Downs, Frank Hopf and Stanley Shina, to racing positions. Churchill Downs Inc. announced in March that Hopf would hold the job of senior director of racing operations, overseeing racing operations, including mutuels, track surfaces, and racing office personnel. Hopf was most recently the assistant general manager at Sam Houston Race Park in Texas. Shina was promoted to racing secretary at Colonial Downs after serving as assistant racing secretary there. A former trainer, Shina has worked in racing for 40 years and will continue in his role as the assistant racing secretary at Tampa Bay Downs. The Colonial Downs meet runs July 13-Sept. 9.

Accepted:

512 trainers to the 2023 Thoroughbred Makeover, the flagship event of the Retired Racehorse Project, at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington Oct. 11-14. Final equine entries were still being made, but registrations in early March included 10 Maryland-breds, nine Pennsylvania-breds, three New Jersey-breds and two Virginia-breds. The Thoroughbred Makeover is open to professionals, juniors, amateurs and teams, who compete for $100,000 in prize money. Eligible Thoroughbreds must have raced or trained within the past two years and have no more than 10 months of retraining work. Competition occurs in 10 disciplines: barrel racing, competitive trail, dressage, eventing, field hunter, polo, ranch work, show hunter, show jumper and freestyle. Maryland-based Sabrina Moore will compete with Maryland-bred Littlebitamedal. Bred by Moore's

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mother Angie, the 8-year-old Violence gelding won eight races through September 2022. Jocelyn Brooks, who used to work for Sagamore Farm in Maryland and is now part of the team at Kentucky's Airdrie Stud, entered Maryland-bred Maryland Pride. Bred by Sagamore, the Hard Spun gelding won twice in 30 starts. Stakes winner V. I. P. Ticket was entered by Mikahla Insalaco while former Jerry Robb trainees Little Bold Bandit and Seany P were also among the entries. The Pennsylvania-breds include 10-time winner Owin I Am, who will compete for the New York-based Kelly Lasher. The Jump Start gelding made 40 starts in the region. Virginia-bred Insurrectionist, a 4-year-old half-brother to multiple stakes winner Kenny Had a Notion, will compete for the Colorado State University team. Maryland-based trainer Kathyrn Samuel will bring Virginia-bred Miss Chief to the makeover. For more, see therrp.org.

Hall of Famer Xtra Heat dies at 24

Every small-scale owner and trainer dreams of finding the one: a bargain purchase at auction who goes on to success beyond wildest imaginations.

John Salzman Sr., Ken Taylor and Harry Deitchman lived that dream with Xtra Heat. The tiny Kentucky-bred was purchased for $5,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale in 2000, and went on to win a female-record 25 stakes races, 11 graded, and earn $2,389,635. Highlights include back-to-back victories in the Barbara Fritchie Handicap-G2 in 2002 and 2003, a second in the 2001 Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1, and a third in the 2002 Dubai Golden Shaheen-G1. In 2015, she was inducted into racing's Hall of Fame, accompanied by fellow Mid-Atlantic greats King Leatherbury and Chris Antley.

COGLIANESE

Xtra Heat passed away Dec. 13 at age 24, with her death announced March 9 by Woodford Thoroughbreds in Reddick, Fla., where Xtra Heat spent her retirement.

Salzman had no expectations of such success when he saw Xtra Heat at the Timonium sale. The trainer was simply looking for horses he could buy cheap and make some money with early in their careers.

"I was standing in the back buying horses off looks, like I always did. She was small, but she was a good-looking filly," Salzman said in March. He put down $5,000 and took Xtra Heat home.

Xtra Heat wasn't X-rayed the day she was purchased, but not long after her career started, osteochondral (OCD) lesions appeared in her stifles. The lesions squashed some future sales offers, but Salzman "never had any problems with her stifles."

True to his plan, Salzman ran Xtra Heat early, dropping her in for a $25,000 tag at Laurel Park June 30, 2000. Under Rick Wilson, she overcame a bad start and got up to win by a neck. Next out, she made her stakes debut in the Toddler, a 5½-furlong dash at Laurel. At 16-1, she broke on top under Mark Johnston and wired the field. Xtra

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Heat never raced in anything but stakes again and proved nearly unbeatable in sprints.

Xtra Heat won her first 12 starts in sprints, including her graded stakes debut in the 2000 Astarita-G2 at Belmont Park. That win inspired her connections to take a shot in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-G1, even though Salzman was less than enthusiastic.

"I told them, I didn't think she was getting 1⅛ miles, 'but if she runs good in New York, I'll send her to the Breeders' Cup,' " he said. "If you looked at her, though, you'd know she didn't want to go long."

In the Juvenile Fillies, she was bothered at the break and was never a factor.

Salzman, Taylor and Deitchman kept her in sprints from there. As a 3-year-old in 2001, Xtra Heat went 9-3-1 from 13 starts, with four graded stakes wins, including the 2001 Prioress-G1 for her lone Grade 1 triumph. In August, she won the Straight Deal Breeders' Cup Handicap at Pimlico in a track record 1:09.07 for 6 furlongs. She earned champion 3-year-old filly honors at the Eclipse Awards, the lone sprinter to win the category.

Xtra Heat didn't miss a beat as a 4-year-old. She won seven more stakes, five graded. At the end of the year, she returned a $1.7 million RNA at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky fall mixed sale, but was later privately purchased for $1.5 million by Classic Star Stable. With Salzman as trainer, Classic Star campaigned her for two starts, an easy win in the What a Summer and her second straight Barbara Fritchie in which she emerged from the fog to cross the wire 1¾ lengths in front. She returned to Dubai to take another shot at the Golden Shaheen, but was injured before the race and retired.

At just a shade under 15 hands, Xtra Heat was small, but she had heart. Salzman remembers,

"She was a real quiet horse until you put the tack on her or took her to the paddock," he said. "Then her ears perked up and she knew it was race time. She was a nice horse to be around."

As a broodmare, Xtra Heat never replicated herself, but nonetheless produced 12 starters and eight winners from 14 foals. Her first foal, Southwestern Heat (Gone West), joined the barn of Salzman's son Tim in the spring of 2007 following an uninspiring start to his career in Kentucky, and went on to win the 2007 Sonny Hine Stakes at Laurel and place in three other stakes including a second in the Hirsch Jacobs-G3 on the Preakness undercard. She also produced stakes winner Elusive Heat (Elusive Quality), along with six-figure earners X Rated Cat (Storm Cat), Songavazzo (Songandaprayer) and Pimpernel (Elusive Quality).

Twenty years after her final start, Salzman remembers Xtra Heat fondly.

"Every win was a good win for me," he said. "She was a runner. Every time you ran her, you knew she was going to be there." *– John Piassek*

THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

HISA medication control program outlined: A presentation at Laurel Park outlined a HISA medication control program scheduled to launch March 27 and representing a major industry change, writes Frank Vespe.

Off the Pace – The racetrack of the future: Mike Valiante shares his vision of what the racetrack of the future ought to look like. Do you agree?

Muad'dib named WV HOY in melancholy ceremony: Muad'dib secured his second straight West Virginia Horse of the Year title at the West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association's banquet made more somber by recent passings. Ted Black reports.

Young riders Rivera, Concepcion opening eyes: Axel Concepcion and Luis Rivera Jr., educated at Puerto Rico's jockey school, are making noise at Laurel, reports Vespe.

Photo Essay - Fritchie day in pictures: The Racing Biz photographer Allison Janezic captured the horses and people who starred on Fritchie day at Laurel Park.

Spectacular Bid - Three different looks: A new book about the people behind Spectacular Bid has prompted Jennifer Kelly to dig into her library to review a trifecta of Bid books.

Backtracks - Little Bold John's "Heart of a Lion": Kelly recalls blue-collar millionaire Little Bold John, who was ornery, determined and counted the General George among his 25 stakes wins.

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Do you know your horse's vital signs?

In late January, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health sent a post about equine vital signs with some basics such as a temperature of 99 to 101.5 degrees, a pulse of 28 to 44 beats per minute (you can find it along the jawline and at the fetlock) and a respiratory rate of 10 to 24 breaths per minute.

We couldn't help but ask about a customized version for Thoroughbreds.

As usual with horses, the request wasn't a simple question, but did prove fascinating thanks to some specifics from veterinarian Dr. Sarah Reuss:

• Listening to the heart of a fit Thoroughbred racehorse can be very educational. The resting rate is often quite low, not uncommonly in the upper 20s, low 30s. Due to that slow rate, you can hear so much. People often think of just the two "lub-dub" of heart sounds. But in these fit Thoroughbreds, it is not uncommon to hear 4 separate heart sounds (all normal as various valves open and close and the blood fills different chambers). Fit horses can also have some "normal" arrythmias where they may drop a beat (but as soon as you take them for a walk or get them excited, it goes back to normal).

• Any horse (racing or retired to another career) that shows exercise intolerance should be evaluated by a veterinarian. Heart arrythmias such as atrial fibrillation or lung issues such as asthma/heaves or EIPH are not uncommon causes of poor performance or respiratory compromise.

• While technically all their normal vitals should be the same as any other horse, keep in mind what the horse is doing. A horse who just got back to its stall after breezing may have an increased temperature as well as heart and respiratory rate for a period of time. The more important thing is watching their recovery relative to their neighbors or themselves. For example, if the horse usually comes back to baseline respiratory rate within 10 minutes of work, but now takes 20-30 minutes, that is abnormal. And the heart rate should always be higher than the respiratory rate (and will generally recover synchronously).

— Mid-Atlantic-bred Stakes Winners —

February 15 – March 10

Maryland-bred

COFFEEWITHCHRIS, dk.b./br.g., 2020, Ride On Curlin—Andiemac, by Outflanker. B-Thomas Rooney; O-John Salzman Jr., Fred Wasserloos & Anthony Geruso; T-John Salzman Jr. $100,000 Miracle Wood S, Laurel, Feb. 18.

EASTERN BAY, b.g., 2014, E Dubai—Chrusciki, by Polish Numbers. B-Nancy Lee Farms; O-Built Wright Stables; T-Norman L. Cash. $250,000 General George S-G3, Laurel, Feb. 18.

Pennsylvania-bred

ANGEL OF EMPIRE, b.c., 2020, Classic Empire—Armony's Angel, by To Honor and Serve. B-Forgotten Land Investment & Black Diamond Equine Corp.; O-Albaugh Family Stables; T-Brad Cox. $400,000 Risen Star S-G2, Fair Grounds, Feb. 18.

DISCO EBO, b.f., 2019, Weigelia—Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico. B-St. Omers Farm; O-Cash is King & LC Racing; T-Robert Reid Jr. $75,000 Penn's Landing S, Parx, March 7.

NIMITZ CLASS, dk.b./br.c., 2019, Munnings—Five Diamonds, by Flatter. B-Arrowwood Farm; O-Tom Coulter; T-Bruce Kravets. $100,000 John B. Campbell S, Laurel, Feb. 18.

NINETYPRCENTMADDIE, b.c., 2020, Weigelia—Amblin Easy, by Private Interview. B/O-LC Racing; T-Robert Reid Jr. $75,000 City of Brotherly Love S, Parx, March 6.

SOCIAL SUCCESS, dk.b./br.f., 2020, Social Inclusion—Schuylkilla, by With Distinction. B/O-Shirley Lojeski; T-Bruce Kravets. $75,000 Main Line S, Parx, March 6.

TAPPIN JOSIE, b.f., 2020, Anchor Down—Homemaker, by Afternoon Deelites. B-Charles Blanford; O-Darryl Abramowitz; T-Horacio De Paz. $75,000 Society Hill S, Parx, March 6.

TWISTED RIDE, b.g., 2019, Great Notion—Diva's Gold, by Tenpins. B-Kasey K Racing Stable; O-Kasey K Racing Stable, Michael Day & Final Turn Racing Stable; T-Michael Moore. $75,000 Fishtown S, Parx, March 7.

South Carolina-bred

SWAYIN TO AND FRO, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Straight Talking—Jungle Lady, by Warrior's Reward. B-Franklin Smith Sr.; O-Baxter Racing Stable; T-Mario Serey Jr. $250,000 Barbara Fritchie S-G3, Laurel, Feb. 18.

Virginia-bred

REPO ROCKS, dk.b./br.g., 2018, Tapiture—Hawaiian Love, by Not For Love. B-Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III; O-Double B Racing Stables; T-Jamie Ness. $125,000 Stymie S, Aqueduct, Feb. 25.

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Steeplechasers jump into gear as season arrives

When it comes to the life of a steeplechase horse, few better statements exist than when a trainer sums up the off-season schedule – shoes pulled, turned out with friends, rolling in the mud, picking grass, no saddle, no trips to the work strip and basically nothing resembling the schedule of a racehorse.

With no racing in December, January and February, the season calls for a natural winter break. New horses might work on their jumping skills and some older ones go foxhunting, but it's a slower, easier, more relaxed pace for all.

Then it changes.

The first point-to-points came in early March. The National Steeplechase Association schedule kicked into gear at Aiken, S.C., March 25, and April brings nine NSA stops including Maryland's three historic timber stops at My Lady's Manor, Grand National and the Maryland Hunt Cup. The 2023 season ushered in a handful of changes with an eye toward greater visibility with the public and increased opportunity for horses and horsemen.

For starters, the NSA teamed up with StableDuel, a fantasy racing website where players build "stables" for the day and compete for a prize pool much like they would in other fantasy sports. Ten steeplechase meets will participate with a $2,000 prize pool for each in a free-to-play contest. Participating meets include Tryon Block House and My Lady's Manor (April 15); the Grand National and Middleburg (April 22); Foxfield (April 29); Virginia Gold Cup (May 6); Winterthur (May 7); Iroquois and Willowdale (May 13); and Radnor (May 20). For more see stableduel.com or download the StableDuel app on your mobile device. As a companion, the NSA will provide free live streaming of its races and a Friday preview show on its website, nationalsteeplechase.com.

The moves put jump racing in front of StableDuel's audience and give existing fans and spectators a reason to follow the racing more closely.

"It's a genuine attempt at making the sport more visible and we might have some success establishing a fan base or a following for our races," said Bill Gallo, NSA director of racing. "I'm thrilled we got 10 of the meets to sign up for it. We're trying to expand interest in the racing, trying to be more active on social media and just reach out to people who don't know as much about us.

"We've had some success attracting people to the sport the last few years and hopefully it can continue."

On the racing front, purses were increased at most meets – headlined by the Grade 1 Iroquois (May 13) reaching $200,000 and the spring's two Grade 2 stakes the Temple Gwathmey (April 22) and the David Semmes Memorial (May 6) elevating to $100,000 each. Three stakes are planned for 4-year-old hurdlers, along with a trio of novice stakes. The timber division looks similar to its traditional schedule with major stops the $100,000 Maryland Hunt Cup April 29 and the $100,000 Virginia Gold Cup a week later. The My Lady's Manor race will be worth $50,000 April 15 as a key prep for either.

As usual, the spring schedule will be in a hurry – occupying about two months total from March 25 through May 20 – which compresses the horse inventory and stresses a top-heavy trainer lineup. Leslie Young (153), Keri Brion (144) and Jack Fisher (107) led the way in terms of starts in 2022, and winners. No other trainer saddled more than 63 horses last year.

"It's a two-month spring season, it happens real fast and when you have three dominant stables it creates some problems you have to navigate – it's the same on the flat with bigger stables becoming more prevalent," said Gallo. "Those bigger stables have more horses than they've ever had. The interest is a good thing, but they'll have horses for almost every race and I'm more concerned about the smaller stables and keeping them engaged. I guess the answer to that is opportunity and we're doing everything we can to maximize opportunity."

2023 Maryland Steeplechase Governor's Cup Series

Presented by FARM CREDIT

2022 Maryland Steeplechase Timber Horse of the the Year: Vintage Vinnie (Ire). Photo by Robert Keller

Sunday, March 19 **Foxhall Farm Cup Team Chase** Butler
Sunday, April 2 **Green Spring Valley Point-to-Point** Hunt Valley
Saturday, April 8 **Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point** Monkton
Saturday, April 15 **My Lady's Manor** Monkton
Sunday, April 16 **Mt. Harmon Wicomico Hunt Point-to-Point** Earlville
Saturday, April 22 **Grand National Steeplechase** Butler
Saturday, April 29 **Maryland Hunt Cup** Glyndon
Sunday, May 21 **Potomac Hunt Races** Poolesville

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Higher purses at spring meets will help, as will an expanded lineup of races at Colonial Downs in Virginia over the summer. Eighteen races will be part of the nine-week schedule on Fridays July 14 through Sept. 8. In a change from last year, Colonial will include the races in its betting lineup. New York tracks Saratoga and Aqueduct will also host steeplechase racing in 2023, followed by the autumn race-meet season in September, October and November.

"Our success depends on how successful our race meets can be, and hearing good things from them in terms of interest and attendance," Gallo said. "If we can build that foundation, it will mean a lot. It's important."

Spring Check-Ins

The top two American-based steeplechasers of 2022 – Snap Decision and Noah And The Ark (Ire) got back to work in January after lengthy and well-deserved rests. Both will target the Iroquois, with a likely prep at the Temple Gwathmey three weeks earlier.

"He wasn't ridden from his race at Far Hills [Oct. 15] until January 15," trainer Jack Fisher said of Snap Decision. "He was turned out, playing around with City Dreamer. They love stuff like that."

"The day after Far Hills, his shoes were pulled and he was out in the back field, just hanging out," trainer Todd McKenna said of Noah And The Ark. "We started riding again January 1, maybe a little bit later."

TOD MARKS

Snap Decision won two Grade 1 stakes in 2022, including the Jonathan Sheppard at Saratoga.

Owned by Bruton Street-US, Snap Decision led all NSA runners with $220,500 in earnings last year, achieved with Grade 1 wins in the Iroquois and Jonathan Sheppard, plus seconds in the Gwathmey and Lonesome Glory and even a strong third in the Colonial Cup Stakes on the flat at Colonial Downs. He finished sixth in the season-ending American Grand National at Far Hills and lost the Eclipse Award vote to the Irish-based winner Hewick (Ire). Fisher will try to peak for Far Hills.

"I'm not going to Saratoga," he said. "I think he was over the top when Far Hills came around. If you look back on it, he ran super in the flat race prepping for Saratoga, then super again at Saratoga, then not quite so super at Aqueduct. I blame Aqueduct on just giving away too much weight. I thought at equal weights we'd be OK, and he'd bounce back at Far Hills but he didn't."

The 9-year-old has won 11 races and earned $642,900 (10th all-time) since switching to jump races in 2019.

Noah And The Ark received 28 pounds from Snap Decision in the Aqueduct win, but backed up that form with a second behind Hewick at level weights in the Grand National. McKenna thinks the 3-mile trip of the Iroquois will suit his horse, but also looks toward Saratoga.

"His true form came out on the flat track at Aqueduct last year and then running as well as he did at Far Hills too," said McKenna. "I don't know if I know enough to say that his form was always going to come out, but he's a nice horse to have and I'm hoping he can keep the form this year. He gets more and more mature every year, is the most balanced horse when you go out and ride him and he's doing really well."

JUMPING AROUND:

Maryland's **Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point** celebrates 100 years with its meet at Atlanta Hall Farm in Monkton April 8. The celebration includes $30,000 in purses and a look back at a history that includes starts by English Grand National winners Jay Trump and *Ben Nevis II . . . Fifteen horses, led by two-time defending winner **Vintage Vinnie (Ire)**, were nominated to the Maryland Hunt Cup (see editorial for more) . . . NSA timber champion **Andi'amu (Fr)** was among the entries in the Foxhall Farm team race March 19. The 13-year-old has been first or second in every timber race he's finished, including four wins in six starts last year for Ballybristol Farm and trainer Leslie Young. *–Joe Clancy*

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Photo by Robert Keller

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EARLY NOMINATIONS

Nominated horse (owner/trainer)

AWESOME ADRIAN (Nancy A. Reed; Katherine S. Neilson)
BLACKHALL (IRE) (Kinross Farm; Joseph G. Davies)
GOODOLDTIMES (IRE) (Armata Stables; Alicia S. Murphy)
GREAT ROAD (Kinross Farm; Joseph G. Davies)
HAFAJAY (GB) (Mrs. George L. Ohrstrom Jr.; Richard L. Valentine)
HILL TIE (Sportsmans Hall; William Meister)
MO'S IN THE HOUSE (T and C Stables; Sam Cockburn)
POCKET TALK (IRE) (Kinross Farm; Joseph G. Davies)
RAKHAA (GB) (Ballybristol Farm LLC; Leslie F. Young)
RENEGADE RIVER (Kiplin Hall; William Dowling)
ROCKET STAR RED (Lucy A. Goelet; Mark Beecher)
ROYAL RUSE (Charles C. Fenwick, Jr.; Sanna Neilson)
SHOOTIST (Upland Partners; Todd McKenna)
VINTAGE VINNIE (IRE) (Armata Stables; Joseph G. Davies)
WITHOUTMOREADO (IRE) (Irvin S. Naylor; Katherine S. Neilson)

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— Next Chapters —

BY MAGGIE KIMMITT

Ron's Partner

ANDREW RYBACK PHOTOGRAPHY

Talk about a tough act to follow. Ron's Partner, a son of Partner's Hero and the Norquestor mare Vee Vee Star, came into this world April 15, 2004. That was the year his older half-brother, Declan's Moon, took the West Coast by storm.

Purchased from Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's fall yearling sale in 2003 for $125,000 by Jay Em Ess Stable, Declan's Moon won all four starts in his freshman season – a Del Mar maiden and three consecutive graded stakes to clinch the Eclipse Award as champion 2-year-old male.

In human-athlete terms, it was akin to an older brother winning the Heisman Trophy while young Ron had yet to touch a football. High hopes and expectations understandably accompanied Ron's Partner's early days.

In three seasons and 20 starts, he never came close to his celebrated sibling. It took 14 starts to break his maiden as a 5-year-old at Laurel Park in December 2009 – his only win. Racing for breeder Brice Ridgely's Spring Meadow Farm and trainers Jann Anderson and Donald Barr, Ron's Partner ran until age 6, his last start for a $5,000 tag at Charles Town July 17, 2010. He stumbled out of the gate and finished last, retiring with a record of 20-1-2-2 and $20,822 banked.

OK, so he wasn't Declan's Moon. But Ron's Partner – rechristened "Ron Juan" – found his jam as an event horse,

and his story is still being told by Kirsten Knull and her daughter Scarlett "Scout" Knull.

"We purchased Ron from Emma Jones-Cesari in the spring of 2019," Kirsten said. "Emma had gotten Ron off the track and diligently and expertly retrained him for horse trials. She competed him up through intermediate [level] successfully."

Jones-Cesari sold him to a rider who returned him, finding him too much to handle. She kept him in training and searched for a better match.

Meanwhile, Scout Knull was competing "a hilariously naughty and very forward pony that had a reputation for bolting with kids," with Scout being the exception. When the time came to graduate to a horse, Scout had plenty of seasoning and the fearlessness of youth. Her then-instructor, Ashley Adams, thought Ron's Partner would be a suitable next step for her 10-year-old student.

"Ashley has an incredible sense for which horses belong with which humans," Kirsten said.

Ron's Partner was the first horse the Knulls looked at for Scout. "He was the first horse I ever rode," said Scout, who turns 14 this year.

"It took one ride for Scout to know that he was the one," Kirsten said. "They started slowly in the ring on the flat, everyone holding their breath a little. They were amazing together. Then they jumped and actually went out on to cross-country that very first ride. That was it. A team was made."

They bought him right away.

"Ron isn't a horse for everyone," Scout said. "He has an opinion and a big personality. He grumbles loudly when he is working and is very particular about who grooms him and how. Even though he is picky about his cues and makes me work for it, he is an amazing partner and has taught me so much. He takes care of me, and I take care of him."

They qualified for the American Eventing Championships in 2021 and 2022 and won the United States Pony Club Jumping Championship (3-foot-3) at the Kentucky Horse Park in 2021. Their most recent adventure was learning about the classic three-day event format alongside the likes of professionals Buck Davidson, Daniela Moguel, Dorothy Crowell and others in Ocala, Fla. Former U.S. Equestrian Team member Crowell offered plenty of praise.

"Partnered with her horse Ron, Scout was consistently in the top 10 in a large competitive field throughout all six phases of the educational three-day," she said. "More importantly, she was interested and engaged throughout the entire six days of education and competition. Scout is an articulate and effective advocate for her sport. She and Ron have a great future in eventing and the work ethic to continue to thrive."

"Ron isn't a horse for everyone. He has an opinion and a big personality . . . he is an amazing partner and has taught me so much. He takes care of me and I take care of him."

– Rider Scout Knull, 14

The Knulls keep their horses at home on a small family farm in Manakin-Sabot, Va., northwest of Richmond in Goochland County. For two years, Scout has worked with trainer Emily Beshear.

"Emily is simply gifted," said Kirsten. "There is no other way to say it. Emily and Scout partner to have a consistent lesson and riding program so that both Scout and Ron are properly fit mentally and physically. Eventing is serious and can be dangerous. I am very grateful for the selfless, ego-free way Emily is truly caring for the accuracy and quality of the ride, results and partnership."

The plan for 2023 is to move up to the modified level, created by the U.S. Eventing Association in 2017 as a bridge between training and preliminary. Typical obstacles – commonly referred to as "questions" – on cross country are angled lines, corners, varied terrain and combinations with water or narrow fences. The maximum height of cross-country and show jumping fences is 3-foot-5. Show jumping courses include two doubles or a double and triple combination. The dressage test at modified level requires leg yield, medium gaits and changes of lead through the trot.

Somewhat bittersweet is the knowledge that Ron's Partner, now 19, will top out at this level. Scout knows she'll have a tough time finding a replacement, and hopes to keep him at home for a well-deserved retirement "because he's my horse."

The little brother became a star after all.

"Accomplishing all these amazing things with him has made me appreciate this sport more than ever," Scout said. "Every day when I go out to ride, I see Ron dancing around with my two Dalmatian puppies, Calvin and Hobbes. It brings so much joy to our little farm to have happy moments like those." ■

— From the editor —

BY JOE CLANCY

Still answering Hunt Cup questions

Trainer Joe Davies had the same answer to a four-part question posed in mid-March. The query went like, "Did you think we'd be having this conversation four or five years ago? About this horse? About winning three Maryland Hunt Cups? About being compared to Blockade and Winton?

"No, no, no, and . . . no."

But that's the thing about horses. You really don't know anything for sure.

Four or five years ago, Davies and I would have talked about rising timber star Senior Senator. He won the Maryland Hunt Cup as a 6-year-old in 2016 – the youngest since Jay Trump, also 6, in 1963. Owned by Skip Crawford, Senior Senator won again in 2018 and 2019 to become just the ninth horse to win America's oldest steeplechase three times. First run in 1894, the Hunt Cup has no peer when it comes to American jump races with its past and its challenge of 4 miles and 22 timber fences.

At 9, Senior Senator looked poised to become the race's first four-time winner, perhaps raise the bar even further or join Jay Trump and *Ben Nevis II in an English or Irish attempt.

Then everything changed. The Covid-19 pandemic canceled the 2020 Hunt Cup, Senior Senator died of colic that spring and conversations of greatness seemingly went to the sidelines. Then Davies unveiled Vintage Vinnie (Ire), who set a course record when he won the Hunt Cup in its 2021 return. Back for more at age 13 in 2022, Vintage Vinnie won again and set another course record.

This year, he tries to make history.

He can join Garry Owen, Princeton, Blockade, Winton, Pine Pep, Jay Trump, Mountain Dew and Senior Senator on the roster of three-time winners. And can ascend to an even more exclusive club with a third *consecutive* win. Only Blockade (1938, 1939, 1940) and Winton (1942, 1946, 1947) have produced that feat, with Winton's streak being interrupted by the race's cancellation for three years during World War II.

"I thought he might be the biggest mistake of a purchase, that's what I thought about him a few years ago," said Davies of the now 14-year-old gelding. "I didn't think this was possible, not the way things started."

Imported for the Armata Stable of Perry Bolton and Ben Griswold IV, multiple English chase winner Vintage Vinnie won his first two point-to-point starts in 2018 and finished second in the My Lady's Manor maiden timber. Shelved until 2018, he opened with two more point-to-point wins and a second at the Grand National in 2019. Then he missed another year, returning to win an apprentice-rider timber and finish a distant third (of three) in the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup in the fall of 2020.

Mildly successful, while gaining a reputation as a runaway galloper and an erratic jumper, Vintage Vinnie hasn't lost a timber race since. In 2021, he won the My Lady's Manor and Hunt Cup. Last year, he prepped in the apprentice race at the Manor before making off with another Hunt Cup. In both Hunt Cups, the first with visiting Irishman Dan Nevin aboard and the second with Davies' 18-year-old son Teddy, the dark bay sped off to long leads which proved insurmountable for his overmatched rivals.

"He got away with some mistakes the first year, but last year he was so much better at it," said Joe Davies. "I thought he was 50/50 to get around or something with Teddy's inexperience, a terrible school we had a couple days before, all of it. Then he went out and ran better."

Can he do the same at age 14? Davies doesn't see why not. After a long break – he spends most of the summer doing a water treadmill program at Brenda Godfrey's Nor Mar Farm in Freeland, Md. – Vintage Vinnie got back to work on Davies' farm in Monkton, Md. A typical morning training session starts with a jog up and down the driveway

twice, then a 1-mile blitz around the front field about as fast as he can go.

"He does that three or four days a week, the other days he trots and goes out with the donkey," Davies said. "I think it's all fun for him. He's happy. He lives out most of the time in a field with a sharp, short hill and he runs up that as many times as he wants to. It's not nerves, he just likes to do it."

Hey, whatever works. After forcing his high school Boys' Latin to break its long-standing "no varsity athletes at the Maryland Hunt Cup" rule, Teddy Davies is a freshman at the University of Delaware and gets a chance to ride the stable star on weekends. He also stays fit by riding out for trainers Keri Brion, Todd McKenna and Leslie Young. Vintage Vinnie will follow the same schedule he did in 2022 – a prep on the flat at Piedmont Point-to-Point March 25, My Lady's Manor for the stakes this time (he's no longer eligible for the apprentice race) April 15, and the Hunt Cup April 29.

"He's 14, he's got old problems and we never thought any of this was going to happen the first time," said Davies, who seeks his sixth consecutive Hunt Cup as a trainer, "so we'll take it as it comes."

And answer questions later. ■

ANNE LITZ

Big Payoff

SOUTH CAROLINA-BRED SWAYIN TO AND FRO ADDS FRITCHIE TO SUCCESS STORY

By John Piassek

When the field crossed the wire for the 2022 Barbara Fritchie Stakes-G3 at Laurel Park, what odds would you have gotten that next year's winner would be:

- A South Carolina-bred filly who, at the time, was unplaced in two career starts?
- Trained by a trainer who had never won a graded stakes?
- Ridden by a jockey who had never won a graded stakes, and had won just six races in the past five years?

It would have been some parlay.

Swayin to and Fro defied those odds and then some to win the 2023 Fritchie Feb. 18 for Baxter Racing Stable, trainer Mario Serey Jr. and jockey Richard Monterrey. It was the first domestic graded stakes victory by any South Carolina-bred and moved the 4-year-old daughter of the late Straight Talking to third on the all-time South Carolina-bred earnings list. Her $476,537 are just $95,000 shy of Big Rut, atop the list with $570,488.

Originally campaigned by her breeder Franklin "Goree" Smith, Swayin to and Fro was claimed by Baxter and Serey for $16,000 out of her maiden win at Pimlico last May. For her new connections, she has won eight times, four in stakes.

For Monterrey, the Fritchie represented the crescendo of a hard-fought comeback. The Venezuelan followed his father Pedro, a well-known rider in the country, into racing.

"Since I can remember, I grew up with a passion for horses. I got involved when I was 16; that's when I started going to the track and started riding horses."

Richard moved his tack to the United States in 2002 on the advice of his father, who wanted Richard to ride with a full year's apprenticeship. He began at Gulfstream Park in January 2003 and won his first American race that month. Business was slow until he connected with agent Alex Prado.

"I showed him videotape of my four wins in Venezuela, and he said, 'You've got talent, so I'll take your book.' "

From there, Monterrey's career took off. He finished tied for 13th in the Gulfstream standings with 26 wins, holding his own in a colony that included Hall of Famers Jerry Bailey, Pat Day and John Velazquez.

Monterrey found riding with such big names a great learning experience.

"I watched them every day and tried to copy them," he said. "I have created an ability to see them and kind of copy something they have, so I could be better. When I rode, I appreciated every single rider there. I watched them every day to pick up their skills. I knew I was in the mecca, so I tried to absorb everything I could."

At the end of the Gulfstream season, Monterrey spent some time at the other Miami-area track, the now-defunct Calder Race Course, before traveling to the Mid-Atlantic for the spring and summer.

"Allen Iwinski, who I knew from Gulfstream, wanted me to go to Monmouth Park and Delaware Park," said Monterrey of the trainer. "I rode at Monmouth for about a month and a half and only won two races. Anthony Pecoraro called my agent, and asked if I could come down [to Delaware] to ride on Monmouth's dark days. On my second week there, I rode six winners in three days."

Monterrey got into the car with Prado and said, "We're packing our bags and riding here." Monterrey stayed at Delaware full-time for the rest of the summer and rode nights at Charles Town.

JERRY DZIERWINSKI

Richard Monterrey celebrates aboard Swayin to and Fro after the Barbara Fritchie win, his first in a graded stakes.

Monterrey won 62 races to finish seventh at Delaware, and contended for the title of national champion apprentice jockey. A spill at Charles Town in late October cost him a month, but he finished the year with 172 wins and $2.86 million in earnings. He began riding in Maryland in September for Dale Capuano, and soon established a base.

Over the next few years, success ebbed and flowed. Monterrey won three stakes at Pimlico in October 2004 and cracked the $2 million mark in purse earnings in 2005, but soon found opportunities harder to come by.

"I was working really hard, but I couldn't get any opportunities," he said. "I started getting a little heavy because, sometimes, the way we respond to not seeing your work paying off, you can get depressed, and sometimes you turn to food, others turn to drugs or alcohol. I don't drink or do drugs, but I started eating a lot and gained a little weight. It starts to get in your mind, and you start going to dark places."

Monterrey took a hiatus from racing in 2016. He worked construction with his father-in-law and a one-year break from racing ended up being five. Monterrey gained more weight, and the thought of a comeback slipped further from his mind even if every time he watched the races, the desire to get back in the saddle returned.

"I started doing meditation, reading the Bible, going to church, and then I started to mature," said Monterrey. "I decided, I have a talent, and God gave me the talent, so I'm gonna put it out there."

A chance encounter with former jockey Elvis Trujillo, while out for a run, gave Monterrey his window to return. Trujillo had recently retired and was getting into training. He asked Monterrey about coming by the barn and getting on horses. Monterrey seized the opportunity. He began riding horses every day. The weight began to come off and when he got down to 130 pounds, Trujillo hinted at riding races.

JIM MCCUE

With a clear lead down the stretch, Swayin to and Fro was on her way to her fourth stakes win and first graded in the Fritchie.

Monterrey got his weight down even more, declared himself ready and returned to the saddle at Pimlico May 9, 2021, and won the first race of his comeback a month later.

After winning five races in 2021, he improved to 13 in 2022, including a stakes win aboard Wicked Prankster in the Maryland Million Turf. After an April win, Monterrey told owner/trainer Sammy Davis to think about a stakes try. They won again six days before the Maryland Million Turf, and got the job done on the front end on the big day.

"Sammy was looking at me like I was crazy," Monterrey said, "but I knew what I felt under me; he had a lot of talent. I was very grateful for that opportunity."

When jockey Victor Carrasco was injured, Monterrey also got the chance to ride Cordmaker for trainer Rodney Jenkins.

"I had gotten on Cordmaker in the mornings when Victor got hurt, and I was very excited when Mr. Jenkins gave me a shot to ride him in the afternoon," Monterrey said. "What a cool horse."

With Monterrey aboard, Cordmaker finished third in the Richard W. Small Stakes at Laurel in November to pass $1 million in career earnings.

Monterrey rode a few winners for Serey at Laurel this year, and not long afterward, the trainer asked about riding Swayin to and Fro in the morning. The filly was coming off an expectation-defying 2022 which saw her win eight times in 12 starts and capture three stakes, including the Safely Kept and Willa on the Move to conclude her season. She started the year with a second to Maryland-bred Horse of the Year Fille d'Esprit in the What a Summer Jan. 21 and sought to turn the tables in the Fritchie.

"She's got a really big heart, and when you have a horse like that, there's always an evolution," said Serey. "I knew she could win this race."

Serey saw a potential for improvement.

"When I finished second in the What a Summer, the track at Laurel was very heavy," he said. "At Pimlico, where I'm stabled, the track is always the same; it's very light. No

matter what happens, that track never changes. Some horses who come from Pimlico to Laurel get affected by that, and that's why she was second. She still ran a great figure that day. Going into the Fritchie, the weather was better, they put some water into the track."

A hot pace seemed likely with speedy shippers Pass the Champagne and Union Lake joining a field of eight including top locals Fille d'Esprit and Swayin to and Fro.

"When you understand the horse, the horse does a lot of work for you," said Serey. "I told him to warm her up, break well, and get a good position. I saw there'd be a lot of speed; I read the pace really well."

Swayin to and Fro broke well and led briefly before allowing longshot Liscolvin to take over. Outside, second and stalking through a quarter-mile in :22.44, the winner took the lead just after a half-mile :45.20. Still on a long hold from Monterrey, she denied favorite Pass the Champagne's challenge on the turn and held off second choice Fille d'Esprit by a half-length at the finish after 7 furlongs in 1:23.75.

"After the race, I saw the pace, and they were really smoking out there. She was doing it really easy," Monterrey said. "I was trying to keep her relaxed and wait until the top of the stretch to make her run. I got to know her pretty well. From the first time I got on her, I was like, 'Man, that filly can run.' The main thing was, just wait as long as you can, and don't make her switch leads, because she does that by herself."

Monterrey couldn't help but think of the path he took to the winner's circle.

"The feeling of winning was indescribable," he said a week later. "I couldn't ask to give her a better ride. I'm so honored and thankful for the opportunity. Mario took a shot, and I was grateful to get the job done for Mario and the owners. To this day, I'm still so filled with joy that I got the job done and everybody got the win."

The Fritchie was the first graded stakes victory for horse, owner, trainer and jockey as Swayin to and Fro won for the ninth time in 16 career starts.

Laurel Park Notes

Laurel also hosted four non-graded stakes on the Feb. 18 card. New York invader **Stonewall Star** set the pace and drew away impressively to win the Wide Country for trainer Horacio De Paz and jockey Angel Cruz. It was the third stakes win for Barry K. Schwartz's New York-bred filly, following victories in the Key Cents and Franklin Square at Aqueduct… Maryland-bred **Coffeewithchris** prevailed in the Miracle Wood by 1¼ lengths over 1-2 favorite Prince of Jericho. This was the third showdown between the two, with

"I'm so honored and thankful for the opportunity. Mario took a shot, and I was grateful to get the job done . . . I'm still so filled with joy that I got the job done and everybody got the win."

– Jockey Richard Monterrey,about winning the Fritchie for trainer Mario Serey Jr.

Coffeewithchris taking the Heft, and Prince of Jericho winning the Spectacular Bid. Coffeewithchris is trained by John Salzman Jr., who also co-owns him with Fred Wasserloos and Anthony Geruso . . . Pennsylvania-bred **Nimitz Class** went gate-to-wire to win John B. Campbell Stakes, for his second consecutive stakes win at Laurel. He previously won the Robert T. Manfuso Stakes Dec. 30 for owner/breeder Tom Coulter, trainer Bruce Kravets and jockey Jevian Toledo (see page 36 for more) . . . Brittany Russell trainee **Hybrid Eclipse** rallied four wide and drew off to win the Nellie Morse for her third stakes win at Laurel. She previously won the Caesar's Wish and the Thirty Eight Go Go last year . . . Two jockeys won their first mainland American races in February in Maryland. **Jorge Hernandez**, a native of Chile, won with Queen Cadence Feb. 12 for countryman Claudio Gonzalez. **Luis Rivera Jr.,** originally based in Puerto Rico, won aboard Anthony Farrior-trained Beneath the Stars Feb. 20, Rivera's 19th birthday. **Axel Concepcion**, who turned 18 March 16, came in from Puerto Rico to win his first U.S. start at Fair Grounds in January, then traveled to Maryland, winning aboard Shinelikeadiamond for trainer Phil Capuano his second day riding at Laurel Feb. 25. Launching his career on Jan. 1, he's winning at a 23 percent clip. Concepcion and Rivera both graduated from the Escuela Vocacional Hipica Jockey School in Puerto Rico . . . Fellow Puerto Rican **Jeiron Barbosa** won five races March 5. He swept the first three races of the day, completed the grand slam in race six with Lady Jean for Jonathan Maldonado and earned the five-bagger in the eighth aboard Jerry Robb trainee Grass Cutter. ■

Straight Shot

COULTER'S ARROWWOOD FARM CONTINUES STRONG RUN FROM PENNSYLVANIA

By Tom Law

Tom Coulter grew up with a dairy-farming background. His grandparents ran a Pennsylvania dairy farm and it was there he learned about herd improvement philosophies that would eventually help him frequently top Penn National Race Course's list of owners and breeders.

"Of course, they use artificial insemination, but you'd take your herd to this bull, that would increase milk production and you just keep going on and on like that," Coulter said. "That idea was always there in my head . . . We're following the natural selection principles that farmers have used forever. Believe it or not, it works.

"We breed our own, race them and the better ones we bring home to become broodmares. Hopefully the next generation is a little bit better, they produce horses and that generation is a little better. It's just through selection process that I think we have made our gene pool better."

The improvements to Coulter's broodmare band at Arrowwood Farm in York Springs, Pa., about halfway between Gettysburg and Dillsburg in Adams County, have played a key role in a slew of owner's titles at Penn National.

Coulter topped owners by wins and earnings in 2022 – with 30 victories and $844,125 – after finishing second in 2021 despite career-best metrics in both categories. He ranked as Penn National's leading owner from 2017-20 and also in 2015.

The ascension started in 2010, when Coulter finished 76th with four wins and $89,206. He'd risen to 23rd by 2012 before a third in 2013 and a second in 2014.

The titles mean a lot to Coulter, who splits his time at a newly-renovated house on the farm and Cranbury, N.J., where he and wife Susan own and operate the actuarial and benefits consultant company Coulter & Associates.

"It's nice to be No. 1; I have to admit that," Coulter said. "And we've been able to do it in different ways – with a lot of horses and with not so many horses. We had one trainer [Rodrigo Madrigal Sr.] for many years, then he retired due to Covid. Now I have three trainers, which is a little more difficult to balance. It's been cool. Maybe there are other guys out there that could beat me, but they split the horses in several tracks. I keep focused on Penn National."

Coulter entered racing in 1999 when he bought his first mare, Princess Par, a then 4-year-old unraced daughter of Chief's Crown selling in foal to Joyeux Danseur for $77,000 at the Keeneland November breeding stock sale. The subsequent foal, Par de Deux, won five of 30 starts. Princess Par produced eight more winners, including graded stakes-placed Crown Prince and stakes-placed Bellflower. Two of her daughters, Bellflower and Tahitian Pearl, are stakes producers.

Coulter joked that buying a broodmare in 1999 was "one of those millennial fever things."

"People did crazy things around the millennium," he said. "And I guess we did, too."

He added two more broodmares just to add to the madness and the three weren't an impressive group, at least on paper.

"The first three mares I owned, they had not won a race between them," Coulter said. "They had some pedigree and weren't bad looking, but they never won a race."

Princess Par was retired after producing the subsequently unraced Petionville colt Killdeer in 2016.

JIM DULEY

Nimitz Class wins the John B. Campbell for owner/breeder Tom Coulter.

"She's a 1995 and looks fantastic," said Layne Shaffer, Arrowwood's farm manager since 2016. "That was Tom's first one, what he started with and it's all snowballed from there.

"If you look at the list of mares here, there's so much of her family here. We have five or six of them that have originated from that family. When you look at the list of mares, the ones he bought gets smaller and smaller. They're all mares he bred, raced and brought back."

Arrowwood is home to 22 other broodmares and two retired broodmares. Shaffer said they were expecting 16 foals in 2023, to join the 12 yearlings at the farm and another dozen 2-year-olds going through early training in South Carolina.

Coulter said he owns 76 horses, down from a high of 116 a few years back to focus on "quality, not quantity."

Nearly all the Arrowwood-bred horses are kept to race, but Coulter would consider selling if the situation worked.

"Today our yearling consignor was at our farm taking a look at the yearling crop," Coulter said in early March. "There are one or two we might sell . . . If you can sell one or two and cover the stud fees for the year, great."

Arrowwood sold the Pennsylvania-bred Munnings colt Natural Harbor for $225,000, through Paramount Sales, to Woodford Thoroughbreds at the 2021 Keeneland September sale. Natural Harbor, a winner of a maiden special weight

> "Frankly I can't believe how much my horses have improved in just a couple generations."
>
> *– Breeder Tom Coulter*

in December at Fair Grounds, is out of the stakes-winning Indiana-bred Pleasantly Perfect mare Perfectly Candid.

Arrowwood bought Perfectly Candid for $47,000 at the 2013 Keeneland January Horses of All Ages sale as a broodmare prospect and she's produced five winners from as many foals, including multiple stakes-placed $141,992-earner Key Light (a full-sister to Natural Harbor) for the operation.

Five Diamonds, the dam of stakes-winning full siblings Nimitz Class and Kaylasaurus (by Munnings) and two other winners, holds down the spot as Arrowwood's top broodmare these days. The stakes-winning daughter of Flatter was purchased by Coulter as a broodmare prospect for $52,000 at the 2011 Keeneland November sale.

Winner of the Robert T. Manfuso Stakes in late December and John B. Campbell Stakes in mid-February, both at Laurel Park, Nimitz Class is the fifth foal out of Five Diamonds. Bred in Maryland by Non Stop Stable, Five Diamonds raced exclusively in the Mid-Atlantic, finished first or second in 14 of 23 starts, and earned $208,060 for owners William Inman and Ralph Patten and trainer John Salzman Jr.

Five Diamonds, out of the winning Smarten mare Smart Jane, raced from 2 to 5, won Laurel's Twixt Stakes and placed in two other stakes as a 3-year-old in 2009, before adding another stakes-placing early in her 5-year-old campaign.

Five Diamonds' first two foals – the Petionville gelding Island Ice and Smarty Jones horse Jump Shift – were multiple winners. Her third foal, Kaylasaurus, won six races for Coulter from 2018 to 2021 before being lost to a $25,000 claim in November 2021 at Penn National. Kaylasuarus won two stakes and placed in three others for her new connections before selling for $270,000 at last year's Keeneland November sale.

"I would consider her the top mare, yes," Shaffer said of 17-year-old Five Diamonds, who was bred to Mendelssohn last year. "She has done quite well and really hasn't done much wrong. I've made the comment that she's definitely the top mare and Tom will say, 'You know, we have so and so, too.' But she's got two allowance horses and two stakes winners, so I tell him, 'Maybe you can't compete with that, Tom.' "

Coulter won't argue much. He'll just continue to relish his operation's success and strive for more improvement, just like he's done since the beginning.

"Frankly I can't believe how much my horses have improved in just a couple generations," Coulter said. "It's absolutely super . . . Ever since I was 14 I liked racing and the racetrack. Back then and even now, I read the *Racing Form* every day. Back then I wondered what it would be like to be like Calumet, Claiborne, have your own broodmares, have babies and have your own racing stable like the old guys used to. Not so much anymore. Now everybody goes to the sale, buys a bunch, forms a syndicate, whatever."

Nimitz Class kicks off 2023 with John B. Campbell triumph

Bad Chad. Rotten. Little cocky frat boy. Really nice. Definitely exceptional.

Pick a nickname or adjective, they all apply to Nimitz Class in the eyes of Layne Shaffer and the team at Tom Coulter's Arrowwood Farm.

"He was really tough as a foal," Shaffer said this winter, looking back at Nimitz Class' 2022 season compared to his early days on the farm in York Springs, Pa. "Sometimes they're born and their IgG (immunoglobulin G serum antibodies) is a little low and you do some preventative antibiotics if something doesn't look right. Our repro vet is absolutely fantastic and she's always erred on the side of caution with stuff. When he was first born, he was on a low-grade antibiotic and my gosh, it was just a rodeo every time we had to give him a shot. So, he was Bad Chad.

"We always said he looked like a little cocky frat boy. We called him that. But he was always really nice and we always really liked him. It's been great to see him progress like he has."

Nimitz Class progressed to the top of the – uh – class of runners carrying Coulter's tan and hunter green silks. He won six of 11 starts last year at 3, racing from Jan. 4 to the day before New Year's Eve, and took down a pair of stakes in the process.

Nimitz Class earned $232,854 in 2022 and played a key role in helping Coulter regain the top spot among owners at Penn National Race Course.

He won five times at the track last year, including the June 3 Danzig Stakes that gave Coulter his 300th victory as an owner. He later finished fourth in a pair of stakes in Maryland before taking the Dec. 30 Robert T. Manfuso at Laurel Park to close the season.

Trained at Penn National by Bruce Kravets, Nimitz Class started 2023 the same way he ended 2022, with a victory – this time in the $100,000 John B. Campbell Stakes on Laurel Park's Feb. 18 Winter Carnival program highlighted by the General George-G3 and Barbara Fritchie-G3.

Nimitz Class improved to 7-for-13 and boosted his bankroll to $294,480 with his 4½-length victory over Ournationonparade in the 1⅛-mile Campbell. Jevian Toledo rode the winner.

"He's now won three stakes races," Coulter said. "Since we stretched him out going two turns, in his first race he came close to the track record (1:40.54 for a mile and 70 yards at Penn National in October). Then we sent him to Laurel, he won that stakes race and then we sent him down again and he almost broke the track record again. He had a 101 Beyer Speed Figure in that race. Horses at Penn National just don't do that. Where he goes from here, you never know what the future holds."

Nimitz Class won the Campbell by battling up front the whole way and drawing off late to cover 1⅛ miles in 1:42.29 (.49 seconds off Willard Scott's mark set in 1985). Around two turns on the dirt, the dark bay colt has won all three starts.

A month after the Campbell, Nimitz Class sailed to an even easier triumph in the $100,000 Harrison Johnson Memorial going a mile at Laurel March 18. Bet down to 3-5, he shadowed Hello Hot Rod early before drawing off to win by 6 1/4 lengths. The $60,000 payday lifted Nimitz Class to $354,480 lifetime, with eight wins in 14 starts (including a 3-for-4 mark at Laurel).

Coulter is a six-time leading owner at Penn National. The actuary knows numbers and appreciated getting back to the top after finishing second to Joe Besecker (by wins and earnings) in 2021.

"Tom, he was a little salty. A couple years he's finished as the top owner by money but he really wanted to be the top owner by number of wins," Shaffer said. "We were both very pleased that that was able to happen, too. We had won in previous years and he watches it pretty close. He may tell you he doesn't, but he keeps an eye on it. He'll remind you when we're not No. 1."

■

— Health Notes —

BY JEN ROYTZ

Rotavirus B – What to know; and how to protect your foals, farm

As new foals enter the world, so too do the hopes and dreams of many associated with them. Breeding/raising horses is an investment – of money, time, resources and emotions. From the owners and caretakers who plan the mating and raise the foal to those who own and manage the stallion, each filly and colt has a lot riding on its back before it ever sees a saddle.

That's why any threat to their potential must be taken seriously. From illness and infection to lameness and injury, there are no shortage of ways for things to go awry.

One of the most significant threats to newborn foals has long been rotavirus, a life-threatening and highly contagious virus which damages the lining of the intestines, causing watery diarrhea and severe dehydration in the neonatal offspring of unvaccinated horses.

Since the development of the Rotavirus A vaccine in the 1990s, the occurrence in young foals has been greatly reduced. In 2021, however, something was different.

Breeding farms throughout central Kentucky and around the United States reported severe, contagious outbreaks of diarrhea in foals, and the medicine departments at many major equine clinics were at or beyond capacity due to the virulence of the disease. Many affected foals or their dams were up to date on recommended vaccinations, including rotavirus.

Researchers at the University of Kentucky Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory identified a novel rotavirus in fecal samples from outbreaks. Termed Equine Rotavirus B, this new strain of rotavirus is not impacted by the current rotavirus vaccine, making it a significant threat to foals.

Rotavirus B – what to know

Dr. Emma Adam, the equine outreach veterinarian at UK, led the charge on identifying this novel rotavirus in 2021. One of her first orders of business was to work with colleagues to develop a diagnostic test specific to Rotavirus B to truly identify the scope of the problem.

> "The vaccine for Rotavirus A seemed not to protect against Rotavirus B, so we need to address this newest strain, then streamline to create something that addresses both."
>
> *– Dr. Emma Adam, University of Kentucky*

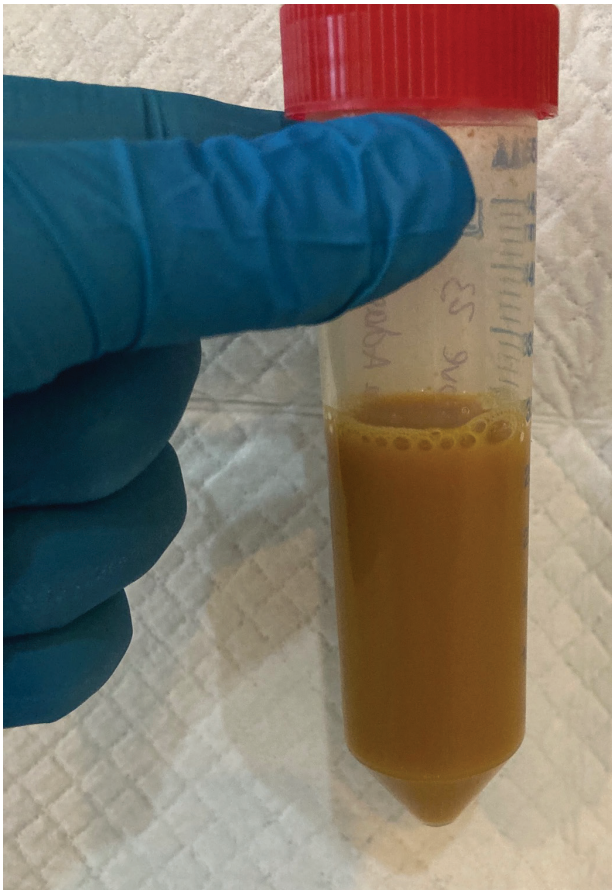
"This disease was acting like rotavirus, but testing negative for it with our then-current testing. Dr. Feng Li, our new virologist, is a renowned researcher and infectious disease specialist. He took a metagenomic approach on samples we collected from vets throughout central Kentucky," said Adam. "The genetic sequencing came back as rotavirus but genetically different from the Rotavirus A we had been dealing with in horses until now. That allowed us to develop a diagnostic test specific to what we were dealing with."

UK shared this diagnostic test with clinics around the world for free, hoping to assist others in diagnosing outbreaks.

"We have assisted professional laboratories across the globe in setting up and validating this test for their use," said Adam.

Growing up in Newmarket, England on a Thoroughbred nursery, Adam was familiar with rotavirus. Through her teenaged years, she often noticed that the virus would ebb

R. CLARK, WITH PERMISSION OF JANE LYON, SUMMER WIND FARM



DR. EMMA ADAM (2)

Clockwise from top left: a foal displays typical symptoms of rotavirus; just a small sample of diarrhea contains up to a trillion particles of the virus; an outdoor set-up for a mare and foal can help in an attempt to break the cycle of infection.

and flow from one year to the next, affecting the herd more significantly one year, then less so the next. As she's advanced in her career, she has identified key reasons why.

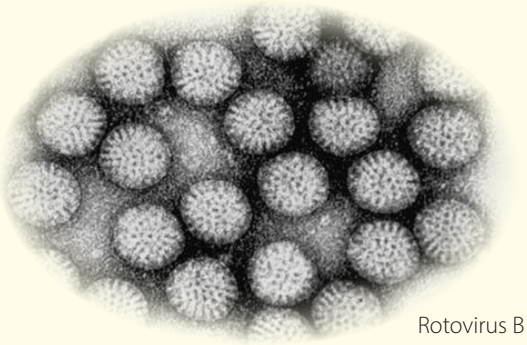
"While the disease is highly contagious, farms tend to develop a lessening of the disease after year one due to multiple factors. The mares likely develop an immune response that sets them up to produce antibodies in their colostrum," said Adam. "Once farms deal with an outbreak of rotavirus or any highly contagious disease one year, they tend to have a heightened sense of caution and adhere more strictly to biosecurity practices centered around separation of contact."

Rotavirus' highly contagious nature is due to the ratio of how many virus particles it takes to infect a foal compared with how many trillions of particles are shed in just a small amount of feces from an infected horse.

"One teaspoon of diarrhea feces can contain up to a half a trillion particles of the virus," Adam said, "but it is estimated that it only takes 100 to 1,000 particles of virus to cause an infection."

The virus damages mature cells in a young horse's small intestine, which greatly reduces a foal's ability to digest milk, leading to malabsorption and maldigestion. The severity is directly related to the foal's age, immune status and number (and virulence) of rotavirus particles ingested.

UK, which played a pivotal role in the development of the original rotavirus vaccine now sold through Zoetis and recommended for pregnant mares in the eighth, ninth and 10th months of gestation every year, is raising funds to develop a Rotavirus B vaccine. Adam said she and her colleagues at Gluck have three vaccine candidates and plan to test them



Rotovirus B

Biosecurity 101 for Foaling Barns

From size and layout to staff and protocols, every farm is different, and so too will be their approach to biosecurity. Adam and Harrison suggest incorporating protocols in the event of a disease outbreak, or to reduce the risk of one:

- Make sure all horses are up to date on vaccinations.
- Keep horses outside as much as possible.
- Thoroughly disinfect any stall intended for foaling with a peroxygen or phenolic compound disinfectant.
- Place a foot dip outside of each sick horse's stall, and at the barn entrance and change the solution frequently.
- Wear gloves, gown and booties to interact with a sick foal, and immediately discard it after interacting with each foal.
- Minimize interactions humans have with each foal.
- Do not go into multiple stalls/interact with multiple foals; rather, do everything needed with one foal and put on fresh biosecurity gear before moving to the next.
- Disinfect any tools or equipment (muck tubs/forks, shanks, etc.) after use in a stall or on a horse.
- For sick horses, designate one set of equipment (muck tub/fork, shank, etc.) to each stall/horse.
- Have a designated isolation stall or facility fully sanitized and ready in case of a sick foal.

For more, visit the American Association of Equine Practitioners website at aaep.org. For more information on Rotavirus B and to stay up to date on the progress of a vaccine, visit gluck.ca.uky.edu/rotavirus.

on their research herd this year. While bringing a vaccine to market can bring with it a seven- to eight-figure price tag, industry organizations have been quick to recognize the urgency of the situation.

"The Kentucky Thoroughbred Association/Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association has donated $250,000 toward the identification and development of a viable vaccine candidate, the University of Kentucky put forward $225,000 and the Grayson Jockey Club Research Foundation has contributed $150,000," said Adam. "This is the industry helping itself. The horse industry is small when compared to the pet, poultry and food-producing animal industries, so financial backing from within often represents our only opportunity to make meaningful scientific advancements to support the health and well-being of our horses."

The goal, according to Adam, is to create the Rotavirus B vaccine, then update the Rotavirus A vaccine created in the 1990s.

"The vaccine for Rotavirus A seemed not to protect against Rotavirus B, so we need to address this newest strain, then streamline to create something that addresses both," said Adam.

Biosecurity can play pivotal role

Regardless of the size of the farm, instituting proper biosecurity protocols can make the difference between an incidence and an outbreak.

One of many veterinarians in the Mid-Atlantic advising clients to prepare for potential Rotavirus B infections is Dr. Mike Harrison. Based near Baltimore, Md., and specializing in reproductive medicine, Harrison has practiced for 40 years and also owns Willowdale Farm, a commercial Thoroughbred breeding operation which foals roughly 40 mares each year.

"I insist that any mare that comes to our farm to foal out has the Rotavirus vaccine. Rotavirus is always a concern because it is so contagious, it takes so much time to get through and treat and it can stay in the soil," said Harrison. "Until recently it had all but been eliminated as long as horses were vaccinated for it, so this new Rotavirus B strain is definitely something to be concerned about."

Harrison said Kentucky often serves as an indicator when it comes to foal diseases due to the dense population of horses and breeding farms, the prevalence of horses to travel to and from Kentucky and the heightened amount of diagnostic testing and research done to identify issues affecting the population.

"I don't know if we have it here [in Maryland] yet, but I've seen foals that presented as Rotavirus cases," said Harrison. "If it's not here yet, it will be very soon, so the best thing we can do is be prepared."

As the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention equals a pound of cure. Harrison says one of the best ways horse owners and managers can protect foals starts months before they leave the womb.

"Good practices in how you raise your horses, such as good nutrition and proper vaccinations, helps them to have stronger immune systems and fight off disease as best as they can," said Harrison. "Preventing overcrowding in pastures and separating mares based on their foaling dates will help to reduce stress and, thus, keep their immune systems strong as they near their foaling dates."

Harrison and Adam recommend farms do a thorough disinfecting of any barn used for foaling using products proven effective on Rotavirus and other common equine diseases.

"Bleach is not an effective disinfectant to use for this scenario," said Adam. "Peroxygen compound or phenolic compound disinfectants are recommended, such as Rescue, Oxy-Sept 333, Virkon-S, One Stroke Environs, Pheno-Tek II and TekTrol."

UK does not endorse specific products, but those should be on the shopping list. Researchers also recommend a review of all foaling and biosecurity protocols with farm staff each year prior to foaling season, as well as during the season if an outbreak occurs to review heightened biosecurity measures.

One of the best ways to reduce the risk of virus spread is to limit interactions with newborn foals.

"Not touching them is the biggest thing we can do to help them," said Adam. "I recommend one person, dressed in a gown, gloves, and booties to do the foaling, then do the foal exam with minimal people the following day, so in the first week, you can reduce the amount of handling vastly."

Adam says keeping newborn foals outside as much as possible will reduce exposure to virus particles.

"No matter how many virus particles are in a stall, the more they are in that stall the more they are exposed," said Adam. "Keeping them outside and foaling outside when possible, will reduce a foal's exposure to fecal matter and virus particles."

Dr. Harrison reiterated the importance those factors, adding that farms with multiple foalings should have a designated isolation facility or even a designated stall away from other mares and foals.

"Between medications, biosecurity, veterinary visits and whatnot, the average cost of treating a foal with Rotavirus B is around $2,000, and that's if they don't have to be admitted to the clinic."

– Dr. Emma Adam, University of Kentucky

"Do the best you can to thoroughly disinfect and rest the stall the sick horse has come from so you don't infect others, and do not handle the sick horse until all other horses have been handled," said Dr. Harrison. "Also, don't go in and out of multiple stalls at once. Do everything you need to do with one foal while wearing proper biosecurity gear, then put on new gear before going into the next stall."

Harrison also recommends placing foot tubs outside of every foal's stall, as well as at the entrance to the barn.

While leaf blowers are commonly used in horse barns to clear the aisles of dust and debris, Adam says they likely contribute to virus spread. She suggests vacuums, which collect debris and virus particles rather than spreading them throughout the barn.

"Between medications, biosecurity, veterinary visits and whatnot, the average cost of treating a foal with Rotavirus B is around $2,000, and that's if they don't have to be admitted to the clinic," said Adam. "Why not spend that money on a barn vacuum instead to protect your foals?"

Adam and her colleagues at UK are collecting data on confirmed Rotavirus B cases. She asks farms or veterinarians with a confirmed case, or anyone interested in learning where they can have fecal samples tested for Rotavirus B, to contact her at emma.adam@uky.edu.

"Awareness is the most important thing. Understanding the risks associated with this disease and how to mitigate them is the best way to protect our young horses," said Harrison. "The more we are aware, the more we can prepare." ■

Eastwood

The Only Pennsylvania stallion listed on Blood Horse's top 50 Freshman sires for 2022

2022 1ST-CROP SIRES BY PROGENY EARNINGS
For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com/SireLists
Rank
Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands
2023 Stud Fee
Foals
Rnrs/ Wnrs
BTWnrs/ %Rnrs
BTHrs/ %Rnrs
GSWnrs/ G1Wnrs
AWD
(Chief Earner, Earnings)
2022 Earnings
1 Bolt d'Oro, (15, Medaglia d'Oro), Spendthrift Farm, KY $35,000 148 80/29 6/7.5% 15/18.8% 3/0 6.45 (Instant Coffee, $322,815) $2,748,980
2 Good Magic, (15, Curlin), Hill 'n' Dale Farms, KY $50,000 127 64/21 6/9.4% 6/9.4% 4/1 6.64 (Blazing Sevens, $468,750) $2,533,214
3 Justify, (15, Scat Daddy), Ashford Stud, KY $100,000 150 71/29 6/8.5% 10/14.1% 4/0 6.61 (Verifying, $197,750) $2,349,984
4 Army Mule, (14, Friesan Fire), Hill 'n' Dale Farms, KY $12,500 94 61/24 5/8.2% 7/11.5% 0/0 6.04 (Danse Macabre, $414,900) $2,049,560
5 Girvin, (14, Tale of Ekati), Airdrie Stud, KY $25,000 87 52/20 5/9.6% 8/15.4% 2/1 6.04 (Atomically, $288,000) $1,910,156
6 Sharp Azteca, (13, Freud), Three Chimneys Farm, KY $15,000 126 82/34 3/3.7% 6/7.3% 0/0 6.05 (Tyler's Tribe, $320,169) $1,905,520
7 Mendelssohn, (15, Scat Daddy), Ashford Stud, KY $25,000 157 91/25 2/2.2% 7/7.7% 1/0 6.79 (Delight, $224,020) $1,831,266
8 Oscar Performance, (14, Kitten's Joy), Mill Ridge Farm, KY $20,000 72 39/17 2/5.1% 6/15.4% 1/0 7.33 (Andthewinneris, $294,243) $1,541,079
9 Mo Town, (14, Uncle Mo), Ashford Stud, KY $5,000 89 56/19 2/3.6% 5/8.9% 0/0 6.14 (Key of Life, $282,350) $1,523,081
10 City of Light, (14, Quality Road), Lane's End, KY $60,000 91 37/11 3/8.1% 6/16.2% 0/0 6.76 (Chop Chop, $425,450) $1,348,733
11 Good Samaritan, (14, Harlan's Holiday), WinStar Farm, KY $7,500 96 52/16 1/1.9% 3/5.8% 0/0 6.66 (Sabalenka, $190,929) $1,144,335
12 Awesome Slew, (13, Awesome Again), Ocala Stud, FL $4,000 36 24/14 1/4.2% 3/12.5% 0/0 6.12 (Awesome Strong, $458,000) $1,021,161
13 Cloud Computing, (14, Maclean's Music), Spendthrift Farm, KY $5,000 105 49/16 0/0.0% 3/6.1% 0/0 6.77 (Two Eagles River, $123,500) $987,894
14 Mor Spirit, (13, Eskendereya), Spendthrift Farm, KY $5,000 100 55/17 1/1.8% 1/2.0% 0/0 5.95 (Velocitor, $224,190) $930,265
15 Collected, (13, City Zip), Airdrie Stud, KY $10,000 111 51/14 1/2.0% 3/5.5% 0/0 6.67 (Freedom Trail, $121,875) $871,549
16 West Coast, (14, Flatter), Lane's End, KY $10,000 108 57/12 2/3.5% 3/5.3% 0/0 6.25 $848,649
17 Accelerate, (13, Lookin At Lucky), Lane's End, KY $10,000 112 64/14 1/1.6% 3/4.7% 0/0 6.39 $675,763
18 Always Dreaming, (14, Bodemeister), WinStar Farm, KY $10,000 111 58/12 1/1.7% 2/3.4% 0/0 6.03 $638,575
19 Bucchero, (12, Kantharos), Pleasant Acres Stallions, FL $5,000 64 29/14 0/0.0% 3/10.3% 0/0 6.07 $634,626
20 Free Drop Billy, (15, Union Rags), Spendthrift Farm, KY $5,000 51 30/8 1/3.3% 1/3.3% 0/0 6.31 $622,500
21 Tapwrit, (14, Tapit), Gainesway, KY $10,000 96 48/12 0/0.0% 1/2.1% 0/0 6.73 $434,626
22 Hoppertunity, (11, Any Given Saturday), Northview Stallion Station, MD $5,000 76 33/8 1/3.0% 2/6.1% 0/0 5.44 $307,500
23 Redesdale, (13, Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, NY $2,500 36 14/7 0/0.0% 2/14.3% 0/0 $200,243
24 Ransom the Moon, (12, Malibu Moon), Calumet Farm, KY $5,000 61 31/8 0/0.0% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.00 $160,101
25 McCraken, (14, Ghostzapper), Airdrie Stud, KY Private 38 19/7 0/0.0% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.70 $155,967
26 Smokem, (15, Union Rags), Lovacres Ranch, CA $5,000 23 14/6 0/0.0% 2/11.8% 0/0 5.67 $141,169
27 Bee Jersey, (14, Jersey Town), Darby Dan Farm, KY Private 32 17/6 1/5.9% 2/15.4% 0/0 6.20 $137,792
28 The Lieutenant, (13, Street Sense), Sequel Stallions New York, NY Died, 2019 26 13/3 1/7.7% 1/9.1% 0/0 5.00 $136,541
29 Funtastic, (14, More Than Ready), Three Chimneys Farm, KY $5,000 19 11/4 0/0.0% 0/0.0% 0/0 6.00 $126,173
30 Irish War Cry, (14, Curlin), Northview Stallion Station, MD $4,500 51 15/4 0/0.0% 1/20.0% 0/0 5.92 $121,870
31 Mrazek, (13, Square Eddie), Ocean Breeze Ranch, CA Died, 2021 8 5/2 0/0.0% 1/9.1% 0/0 6.67 $120,734
32 Prospect Park, (12, Tapit), Harris Farms, CA $2,500 25 11/4 1/9.1% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.25 $102,442
33 Tunwoo, (15, Medaglia d'Oro), Bridlewood Farm, FL $4,000 10 6/3 0/0.0% 1/9.1% 0/0 0.00 $97,085
34 National Flag, (15, Speightstown), Blazing Meadows Farm at Meander Creek, OH $1,500 15 11/5 0/0.0% 1/16.7% 0/0 6.00 $92,456
35 Sea Wizard, (13, Uncle Mo), Colonial Farms, NJ $1,500 8 6/2 0/0.0% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.50 $89,297
36 Conquest Farenheit, (14, Scat Daddy), Harris Farms, CA $3,000 21 10/4 0/0.0% 2/28.6% 0/0 5.92 $85,126
37 Counterforce, (13, Smart Strike), Road's End Farm, BC 2,000 CANS 13 7/4 2/28.6% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.30 $83,900
38 Eastwood, (10, Speightstown), Blackstone Farm PA, PA $1,250 10 6/3 0/0.0% 1/25.0% 0/0 6.67 $81,154
39 Battalion Runner, (14, Unbridled's Song), Ocala Stud, FL $2,500 7 4/3 1/25.0% 1/33.3% 0/0 5.75
40 Tale of Verve, (12, Tale of Ekati), Darby Dan Farm, KY Private 10 3/0 0/0.0% 1/12.5% 0/0 6.75
41 Forever d'Oro, (13, Medaglia d'Oro), Breakway Farm, IN $2,000 14 1/1 1/12.5% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.50
42 No Never No More, (15, Scat Daddy), Pleasant Acres Stallions, FL $2,500 0/0 1/11.1% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.50
43 Gold Rush Dancer, (13, Private G 1/11.1% 0/0.0% 0/0 5.88
44 Rivers Run Deep, (11, Ready's Im 0/0.0% 0/0.0% 0/0 6.67
45 Aldrin, (12, 8.32
46 Far From Ove
47 Long On Value
48 Ralis, (13, Squar
49
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Dixie Serenade: $348,765
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— Broker's Tip —

BY RICK ABBOTT

A Fool for April

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April, oh April, this is the month we have all been waiting for. The farm will turn green; the trees will be in leaf; the mud will dry up and be replaced by flower petals strewn on the grass. Well sort of.

Paul Simon sang, "April, come she will, when streams are ripe and swelled with rain." Oh yes, I forgot about the rain. How about, "May, she will stay, resting in my arms again."? But I'm getting ahead of myself. April is our subject and April is the busiest, loveliest, most anticipated month on the farm. We have been waiting for April throughout the cold and ice of the previous months like a breeder awaiting the arrival of the yearling inspectors who, ironically, arrive sometime in April.

Foalings proceed apace and now the trips to the breeding shed become a regular part of the routine. If you stand stallions and they are popular, there are two, sometimes three, daily sessions in the shed. Some days there might be only one mare to cover but, if you have a number of stallions, some part of your day will be devoted to gathering the crew, the teaser, the mare to be covered, the buckets, cotton, and tail wraps and, finally, the egotistically inflated stallion who never appreciates that you have gone to all this trouble and bites or kicks at those who serve for his pleasure.

Taking mares to breeding sheds on other farms to breed "off the van" is a completely different experience. In Kentucky it is traditional to leave the mare's foal at home. Usually, the foal is placed in a stall with the buckets and feed tub removed and allowed to holler until it gets hoarse or bored and settles down. The foal may be sedated but not necessarily. When the mare returns in about two hours they are reunited.

In the Mid-Atlantic region, we take the foal on the van in a box stall with its mother. Routines vary from stud farm to stud farm, but one of three things happens. The foal goes into the breeding shed with the mare and is held by an attendant (Country Life); the foal is placed in a bucket and tub-less stall in an adjacent barn (Northview); or the foal stays on the van and the van driver (me) wrestles with it for however long the breeding takes (most other farms). The advantage of this method over Kentucky's, if there is one, is that the foal is only separated from the mare for minutes rather than hours.

In any event, you arrive at the stallion farm and often are greeted by other horsemen on the same mission to one of the other stallions at the farm. Since you've hardly left the farm since mid-January, it's nice to see familiar faces who, unlike your banker, understand why you haven't been out and about. Sorry, I digress.

You arrive at the loading ramp and generally you are taken in the order in which you arrive. This may change if one of the stallions is particularly slow to go about his business. That horse will usually be bred last. First, it is silly to make everyone stand around wasting time when they have many things

to accomplish back at their own farms. Second, there will be less pressure to rush the slow breeder and fewer people standing around pressuring the breeding shed crew. A shy breeder cannot be rushed. I spent many an hour in the shed with T. V. Commercial at the old Windfields Annex and the patience of Junior Clevenger and his crew and their refusal to transmit a sense of urgency to the horse always resulted in a successful cover.

I mentioned earlier that April is the month when Fasig-Tipton does its yearling inspections. Their aim is to select the horses for both the Kentucky July sale and the Saratoga yearling sale. A team of two or three (in our day it was always men), having scoured the Lexington area, venture north and east to see what is on offer. Initially, I found this nerve wracking. You, or your clients, always wanted to be seen as breeding horses of a "select" nature but over time and having done yearling inspections for Fasig-Tipton in Texas and Oklahoma I came to understand that it's always better to be in a sale where your horse stands out rather than where it doesn't really shine.

The July sale is a case in point. It's difficult to have anything but a February colt ready to be shown and sold in mid-July of its yearling year. Fillies and later colts just don't mature in time and year after year the early colts succeed at that sale. Those same early colts always worked as well or better at Keeneland September. We learned this the hard way and at a certain point stopped aiming anything for July. If they weren't Saratoga material, which only a few were, they were slated for September or Timonium in October.

The dilemma for the Fasig-Tipton inspectors is that if they don't get the horse for July, they lose it to Keeneland. One year Bill Graves and Walt Robertson were at the farm in April and really giving us the hard sell for a yearling we owned to go to July. When we had resisted all arguments, Bill pulled out his closer. "If you sell the horse in July, you'll have your money three months earlier than if you wait for September." Dixie replied, "But Bill, if we get our money three months earlier we'll be broke by Christmas instead of April Fool's Day as usual." Walt shook his head and said, "She's got you there, Bill."

So April is the month of dreams; dreams of bushy tailed foals and pregnancy ultrasounds and of hairy yearlings just starting to shed their coats and show what they might be. It's a long time until the sales, but you can't blame a man for dreaming. ■

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— Trackside: Laurel Park —

Calmer after the Storm

CASH, HUMPHREY THINK OF WHISMAN AFTER GENERAL GEORGE WIN BY EASTERN BAY

By John Piassek

When Norman "Lynn" Cash bounded down the stairs to the Laurel Park winner's circle following Eastern Bay's win in the General George Stakes-G3 Feb. 18, his thoughts weren't on personal achievement. He was thinking about someone he never met, but whose presence permeated the day.

"This one's for Avery," Cash thought.

Avery, of course, is Avery Whisman. The Kentucky native began riding in Maryland in April 2019 after starting his career at Turf Paradise. Sixty-five of the jockey's 90 wins came in Maryland, three aboard Eastern Bay in seven tries. With earnings of $118,502, Eastern Bay was Whisman's highest-earning mount.

Whisman didn't have the chance to ride Eastern Bay on that sun-soaked winter afternoon in central Maryland. The 23-year-old died Jan. 11, following what his family described as a prolonged illness. Numerous follow-ups to his death mentioned the mental and physical burdens placed on jockeys, especially after the death of Midwest-based jockey Alex Canchari by apparent suicide less than two months later. Whisman was honored in the Laurel Park winner's circle earlier in the day, as friends, family, fellow jockeys and racing fans spilled onto the track to honor him in a moment of silence, a ceremony duplicated by tracks all over the country.

For Cash, Whisman's connection to Eastern Bay added poignancy to a day on which the trainer's profile continued to climb.

A native of New Mexico, the 59-year-old Cash has been a fan of the sport from a young age, originally attending the races at the New Mexico State Fair in Albuquerque. He got involved in ownership in 2012, having his interest rekindled by I'll Have Another's Triple Crown bid, and took what he describes as "a $1-million education over the first few years, and that was just with a few horses." The most successful, Take It Like a Man, won the 2013 Researcher Stakes at Charles Town for trainer Kellyn Gorder before getting claimed and finishing with $428,158 in earnings.

Over the next few years, Cash and his wife, Lola, merely dabbled in the racing business, keeping their primary focus on their company, Built Wright Homes and Roofing. In early 2021, Cash decided to return to racing, and this time went all-in. He took out his trainer's license in April 2021 at Keeneland.

"My wife owns them all, so that's why I can run two- and three-deep a little more often than other trainers. I can run them all against each other without annoying other owners," Cash said. "It's a luxury not all trainers have."

In addition, he decided to focus on building a stable through the claiming box, rather than going through the auction ring.

Cash's methods paid instant dividends. He won 32 races in 2021, with purse earnings of $977,645, and ramped it all the way up to 85 wins and more than $4 million in 2022.

In August 2021, Cash claimed Beverly Park for $12,500 at Belterra Park in Ohio and trained him through a 15-win season in 2022, leading all North American horses in that category. In September, he claimed Sir Alfred James for $62,500 at Churchill Downs and has since won two stakes with him while earning more than $500,000.

"Everyone thinks claiming is the bottom end, but we're running in a lot of good races," said Cash. "I'd bet half our races are in allowance and stakes races."

Beverly Park and Sir Alfred James became emblematic of Cash's style: run 'em often.

"I personally think a 12- to 14-day layoff is ideal," said Cash. "It gets them rested and refreshed, and you're racing

JERRY DZIERWINKSI

Eastern Bay gets a warm reception – a kiss from Jay Libertini and hug from Lynn Cash – after winning the Grade 3 General George.

them enough that you're not spending money for them to sit in the barn. If you had averaged the days between races (when I started), we probably give them about five to six days more rest, on average, right now. We still run more often than the average trainer, but now we're trying to fire our bullets with a little more precision."

Cash has remained potent in the claiming game.

Last October, Double Crown gave Cash his first graded stakes win when he pulled a 42-1 upset in the Kelso Handicap-G2 at Aqueduct after Cash claimed the Maryland-bred for $40,000 at Churchill Downs in June. "I already had a van going up that day, and they said the Kelso was coming up light, so I figured I'd take a shot. No one was more surprised than me when he won."

In the winter of 2022, Cash began operating a string in Maryland, and grew fond of the circuit.

"The Mid-Atlantic is nice, because in the spring, you're within 90 minutes or two hours of five tracks," he said. "Whatever level of horse you have, you can move around and find a good spot. We've had great success here. The purse money and the claiming money is decent. It's one of the best circuits in the country."

His assistant, Jay Libertini, handles Cash's Mid-Atlantic string, which has grown to 40 stalls at Laurel Park.

"I met Jay at Colonial Downs, and he'd run our horses there as a groom," Cash said. "We got to talking, and before you know it, he became my guy. He spots a lot of the horses, and had a lot of contacts around here, because he's been around for so long."

One of the first horses Cash claimed in Maryland was a name already familiar to Mid-Atlantic racing fans: Eastern Bay. Victor Frenkil and his late wife Nancy purchased Eastern Bay's dam, Chrusciki, for $40,000 as a weanling at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December mixed sale in 2000. She won eight times, including a pair of stakes, while earning $322,828, and became a broodmare at Frenkil's Nancy Lee Farms in Glyndon, Md., upon her retirement in 2006.

"When I got back to the winner's circle, I was shaking, and I couldn't tell if it was a happy shake or a sad shake."

– Jockey Will Humphrey, thinking of Avery Whisman

Chrusciki's seventh foal, Eastern Bay, was born May 14, 2014, and named for the tributary in the Chesapeake Bay on which Frenkil enjoys boating.

"He had a good personality, good looks, and looked like he had a lot of possibilities," said Frenkil.

Eastern Bay made his debut for Frenkil and Ferris Allen, whom Frenkil describes as his "go-to trainer," at Laurel in December 2016. The E Dubai gelding finished fifth, but rebounded to break his maiden in his next start in January 2017. Over the next few years, Eastern Bay carved out a place as an allowance-quality sprinter in Maryland. He won exactly three races per year every year from 2018 to 2020. In February 2020, he was claimed for $35,000 by Claudio Gonzalez, and picked up his first stakes win in the Polynesian Stakes at Laurel in September of that year. Next out, he was beaten a nose by fellow Maryland-bred Laki in the Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash-G3.

The resume attracted Cash's eye when Eastern Bay dropped in for a $35,000 tag in an optional claimer at Laurel April 3, 2022.

"We try to claim horses like him," said Cash, "because when you have a horse with that much back class, if you can get them happy, if you get their shoes right or his gut right or whatever it is, they bring themselves forward. Just making them happy puts them 2-3 lengths ahead of the others. In Eastern Bay's case, I knew he had run some big races and run some good numbers, and I didn't think people would want to claim him because of his age."

Cash took 8-year-old Eastern Bay out of that race, which he won, and enjoyed success through the rest of the season. In nine starts for Cash, Eastern Bay won four times and placed in three stakes, including two seconds in graded company at Aqueduct in October.

Referred to around the barn as "the Beast from the East," Eastern Bay occupies the first stall in the Laurel shedrow. Cash said the horse is "Jay's Baby" with a nod toward Libertini.

"He's sweet and gentle, and he's a real mint hound," said Cash. "When I look at him, his thighs jump out at me. I'm sure that's where his power comes from."

When he switched barns, Eastern Bay also received a new rider: apprentice Will Humphrey. The native of Newmarket, England, whose mother trains steeplechase horses, originally imagined himself as a jump rider. He stayed light enough to ride flat horses and transferred to that world as a teenager.

Humphrey found the grind of English racing difficult and became burned out with the sport.

"I was struggling over there with no opportunities. You're racing at different tracks every day, you have to drive six hours each day just to ride a 100-1 shot."

He was family friends with fellow Englishman Graham Motion, and when borders opened after Covid, Humphrey went to Tampa Bay Downs to work for Motion in late 2021.

"I mostly galloped for him, and it was an amazing experience." said Humphrey. "It really rekindled my love for racing."

Humphrey picked up a few mounts at Tampa that winter and moved to Fair Hill Training Center with Motion in the spring. There, he met his agent, Simon Purdy, and began to pick up mounts in Maryland. Around the start of the Laurel spring meet, Humphrey met Cash.

"On one of my first days here, I was walking around the barn area, and I came across the Cash barn," said Humphrey. "I met with his assistant, Jay, and I asked if they needed any help in the morning. As it turned out, they did, and I said I'd get on some of his horses. I jogged five of them that morning, and after I got off, Jay said he'd start giving me rides."

Humphrey and Eastern Bay finished fourth in the gelding's first start for Cash April 29 (behind Whereshetoldmetogo), then picked up a victory in an optional claimer (while risked for $50,000) at Pimlico May 28. Horse and rider quickly developed chemistry.

"He's the kindest horse in the morning; a true gentleman and an absolute pleasure," said Humphrey. "He doesn't always break so sharp, but he's a real grinder and he won't give in.

JIM MCCUE

Jockey Avery Whisman, who won three races on General George winner Eastern Bay, was honored in a ceremony early on the card.

With other horses, if you wind them up with a half-mile to go, they can't always sustain it, but he just keeps going."

Eastern Bay won three more times in 2022 and, in back-to-back starts at Aqueduct in October, was second in the historic Vosburgh Stakes-G2 (behind Elite Power) and Bold Ruler-G3, getting beat by a nose in the latter, before missing the rest of the year with heel problems.

"It was the most expensive rundown in history," said Cash of the Bold Ruler defeat and almost four months away from the races. "His bandages slipped, and he ended up needing about six weeks to recover. He was ready to start working by the end of the year, but he couldn't get off the state's vet list."

In time, he was taken off, and resumed working at Laurel in early December to get ready for the General George. Cash entered two others in the eight-horse field, Sir Alfred James and Pirate Rick, the latter of whom figured to be a major early pace factor.

"I had been breezing Pirate Rick, so I knew he was quick," said Humphrey. "I thought he and Beren were going to duel, and I figured I'd be 5 or 6 lengths off the pace."

With Eastern Bay's closing style, the pace scenario figured to help. The complexion of the race changed a few strides out of the gate, when last year's Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash winner Beren stumbled and Eastern Bay broke much better than expected. As such, he was able to work out a great trip stalking his stablemate.

"He broke well, and after about a furlong, I found myself sitting alongside Pirate Rick," said Humphrey. "I had so much horse underneath me. When I got to the three-eighths pole, I could see Pirate Rick was tired, and I had a ton of horse."

Cash was also confident as they rounded the far turn.

"Once he made the lead, I felt good, because he seldom gives up once he gets to the front." Indeed, no one could catch Eastern Bay late, and he hit the wire in front by 1½ lengths, giving Humphrey his first stakes win and making Eastern Bay the 31st member of the Maryland-bred millionaire's club. Yodel E. A. Who finished second with Beren third, a length over 7-5 favorite Factor It In.

Neither Cash nor Humphrey knew Whisman personally, but he was at the forefront of their minds after the General George.

"It was the strangest set of emotions you could have," said Humphrey. "When I got back to the winner's circle, I was shaking, and I couldn't tell if it was a happy shake or a sad shake. It was only the following day that I could enjoy what I had done. I never met Avery, but Simon was Avery's agent and he never spoke a bad word about him."

In the ceremony early in the card, Whisman's parents were presented with a saddle cloth with Eastern Bay's name on it. After the race, Humphrey presented them with the winning saddle towel too.

"Avery's family made it a special day," said Cash. "To see his parents, his siblings and his fiancee there, you could feel the emotion. We invited them back to the barn afterward. They made it more special. After honoring Avery earlier in the day, it felt like Eastern Bay's win was how the day should end. It felt like there was more at play than horses."

Cash is excited about his future in the sport and plans to take his stable public.

"If you told me two years ago that I'd be claiming horses and being the favorite in graded stakes races, let alone running in them, I'd never have believed it," he said. "We've got a lot of good stock in the barn now, and I'm looking forward to the future, and to taking on new owners. I'm coming up on my 1,000th start, so the apprenticeship is now over." ■

— Trackside: Parx —

The Name Game

LC RACING FINDS STAKES WIN WITH HOMEBRED NINETYPRCENTMADDIE

By Paul Halloran

Glenn Bennett puts a lot of thought into naming his horses, often relying on the people in his life for inspiration. So, what about Ninetyprcentmaddie, a good-looking 3-year-old who romped to a 9¾-length win in the City of Brotherly Love Stakes at Parx Racing March 6?

"I have a friend [Ryan Nelligan] who works with me," Bennett said. "You know how everyone is when they have their first child, they're in the 90th percentile of this, the 90th percentile of that. First it's height and weight, then math scores, then . . ."

You get the point. So when Nelligan named his first child Brynn, Bennett came up with Ninetypercentbrynn, a Pennsylvania-bred filly by Weigelia out of Amblin Easy, a mare Bennett claimed at Parx in 2014 and had decent success with before deciding to breed her. Ninetypercentbrynn, born in 2018, has been a solid performer, winning four races, placing in three stakes and earning more than $280,000 for Bennett, who races as LC Racing.

Bennett sent Amblin Easy back to Weigelia and along came Ninetyprcentmaddie, a colt named for Nelligan's daughter Madison – with a missing "e" to meet The Jockey Club limit of 18 characters in a name. After a second in the Parx Juvenile and an inexplicable clunker in the Grade 3 Withers at Aqueduct, Ninetyprcentmaddie looked like a 100-percent star back at Parx, winning one of the seven $75,000 stakes run over two days.

"We got real lucky with that breeding," said Bennett, who named his racing stable for Larry Ciletti, who hired him out of college for the only job he has ever worked. "He and his sister both can run."

It all started Oct. 25, 2014, when Bennett claimed Amblin Easy, a New Jersey-bred by Private Interview who caught the eye of trainer Butch Reid's wife and assistant, Ginny. She won three races and when it came time to retire her, Bennett talked to Reid about breeding her, which turned out to be prescient.

Bennett has bred the mare three times to Maximus Mischief, a standout horse he co-owned with Chuck Zacney's Cash is King stable. Maximus Mischief went undefeated as a juvenile with a win in the Grade 2 Remsen and was on the 2019 Kentucky Derby-G1 trail before suffering a soft tissue injury while preparing for the Fountain of Youth Stakes-G2. The breeding has produced a 2-year-old filly preparing to debut at Parx, a yearling filly and a 2023 foal.

As for Ninetyprcentmaddie, it didn't take long for the connections to figure out they had a good one after he won the Whistle Pig Stakes at Parx last August in his second start. He followed with an allowance win and fourth in the Pennsylvania Nursery, before the second in the Parx Juvenile behind Recruiter.

"Butch has liked him from day one and always thought he could go long," Bennett said.

That's what prompted taking a swing for the fences in the 9-furlong Withers and, while Bennett and Reid may not have been expecting to win it, finishing last was not in their plans, either.

"That was the unexpected performance," Reid said. "He didn't ship well and was sulking all day. He didn't adjust well to the change of environment. We were taking a little bit of a shot, but he was doing fantastic. We were disappointed in that one."

A result like that requires a confidence builder and the City of Brotherly Love was just what the equine doctor ordered. Paco Lopez took Ninetyprcentmaddie to the lead from the rail and never looked back, covering the mile and 70 yards in 1:44.57. Time to Cruise and Blue Royal rounded out the trifecta.

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Ninetyprcentmaddie coasts to victory in the City of Brotherly Love Stakes for owner/breeder Glenn Bennett's LC Racing.

"He certainly responded around two turns," said Reid, who was considering the Wood Memorial-G2 at Aqueduct April 8 but sounded like he was leaning more toward the Federico Tesio at Laurel April 15, a win-and-you're-in for the Preakness Stakes-G1.

Bennett would love to run in the Preakness, though he won't be there to see it, with his daughter, Brielle, (for whom he named Bree's Got Heart, a $248,795 earner) graduating that day from Villanova, where his father, George, coached baseball for 15 years. Bennett and his wife, Gina, have two other daughters: Samantha (responsible for the naming of Borderline Genius and Confirmed Genius) and Gia, a high school junior (Gia's Fuego).

Bennett got his start in racing in 2012, putting together an ownership group that included champion boxer Bernard Hopkins, Philadelphia Phillies center fielder Shane Victorino and Eagles offensive lineman Todd Herremans. They bought five horses from the estate of Ciletti, whom Bennett met on a fishing boat when in college and was hired on the spot. Ciletti built Tru-Fit Frame and Door, now Unified Door and Hardware Group, with Bennett serving as president.

"I told them we'll lose the money, but we'll have fun," Bennett said of his sales pitch to his pro athlete friends. "I got hooked and stayed in."

And then some. LC Racing now owns all or part of 75 horses, about two-thirds in partnership with Cash is King. "Partnering with Chuck allowed me to go to the next level," he said.

One of those horses is Disco Ebo, a 6¾-length winner of the Penn's Landing Stakes March 7 at Parx. That filly, also by Weigelia, is named for his friend Steve Eberling's son, who died of cancer at age 17 and whose legacy lives on in the Ebo Strong Foundation.

"I told them we'll lose the money, but we'll have fun. I got hooked and stayed in."

– Owner/breeder Glenn Bennett, on convincing Philadelphia-area pro athletes to own horses with him

Bennett wasn't sure Disco Ebo could get the 6½ furlongs of the Penn's Landing, but Reid knows best and the filly led every step under Frankie Pennington.

"I thought she would get caught," said Bennett, "but Butch thought she could go 6½ and he was right. I leave all the decisions up to Butch. He has done a fantastic job for us."

Reid admitted he wasn't sure Disco Ebo would last, but he was excited about running her and positively thrilled with her performance.

"She has really come around," he said. "She had an accident last year when she got loose and fell, so mentally it took her awhile to get going. I thought if she got the right situation and could get an early lead and then settle down, she might be OK."

She was much more than OK and that type of performance puts a slew of open-company races in play.

"There's one more PA-bred at 7 [furlongs] we could run in," Reid said, "and there are a lot of big races on the undercards of the big days."

You can't have everything go your way in racing, which Bennett and Reid learned in the first stakes of the two days at Parx. Off a win in the Parx Futurity and second in the Ruthless Stakes at Aqueduct, Girl Trouble, a promising 3-year-old filly owned by LC Racing in partnership with Tom McGrath's Swilcan Stable, looked unbeatable in the Main Line Stakes and was sent off at 1-5. She got an unspeakably bad trip under Lopez and had to settle for third.

"It's pretty rare when a jockey comes back and apologizes, but that's what Paco did. He manned-up and said it was his fault," Reid said. "They're not machines. That's why they run the races. She came out of it very well and there are so many possibilities for 3-year-old fillies and colts to go long all year. She's going to be best at the middle distances."

The tough trip for Girl Trouble shouldn't overshadow the performance of the winner, Social Success, a Shirley Lojeski homebred who shipped in from Penn National and was an easy gate-to-wire winner for trainer Bruce Kravets.

"I thought she would be a few lengths back, put in a good run and hopefully the speed would stop," said Kravets, the all-time leading trainer at Penn National with more than 3,500 of his 3,740 and counting career wins logged in Grantville. "Frankie Pennington rode a great race. That wasn't the gameplan [to go to the lead], but that's how it worked out. On paper, I thought a few of them would come and get her, but she kept digging in and nobody was going to get by her."

Social Success, by Social Inclusion and the second stakes performer out of Lojeski's mare Schuylkilla – is there a more Pennsylvania name than that? – improved her career record to three wins in four starts after covering the mile and 70 yards in 1:46.76.

"I don't think the filly has reached her potential," Kravets said. "She's going to be pretty tough with the PA-breds. That was a big step up for her."

PARX PIECES: Other winners on the March 6 card included **Tappin Josie** in the Society Hill Stakes for 3-year-old fillies. By Anchor Down and out of the Afternoon Deelites mare Homemaker, she was bred in Pennsylvania by Charles Blanford, is owned by Darryl Abramowitz, trained by Horacio De Paz and ridden by Kevin Gomez . . . The Into Mischief gelding **No Confession** took the Rittenhouse Square Stakes for 3-year-olds, drawing off to a 4-length win. Anthony Nunez rode for owner Kingdom Racing and trainer Linda Simon . . . Kasey K Racing homebred **Twisted Ride** was the first stakes winner on the March 7 card, holding on to win the Fishtown by a head over LC Racing's Smooth B, another Weigelia progeny. The Pennsylvania-bred gelding by Great Notion out of Diva's Gold is trained by Michael Moore and was ridden by Andy Hernandez, who combined for their first stakes win with That's Right in the Turf Monster on the Pennsylvania Derby undercard last year . . . Uriah St. Lewis trainee **Forewarned**, by Flat Out and out of the Five Star Day mare Fortune Play, closed from sixth to win the Washington Crossing Stakes by a half-length to conclude the stakes action. Dexter Haddock was the winning pilot on the 8-year-old Ohio-bred owned by Trin-Brook Stables, who pushed his career earnings to $987,383 from 58 starts. ■

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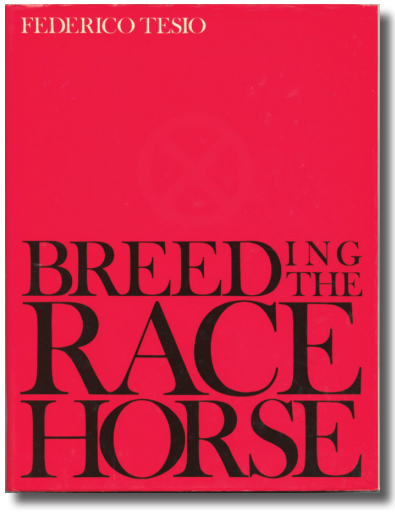
Speaker's Corner

Tesio panel discussion set for April at Laurel

By Joe Clancy



Federico Tesio. The name conjures thoughts of international Thoroughbred excellence, almost mythical (and surely mystical) names Nearco and *Ribot among scores of luminaries and a fierce independent streak when it came to breeding future racehorses.

And an admittedly jumbled, if firm, link to Maryland's racing industry.

He was born in 1869 in Turin, Italy. Orphaned at 6, he went on to obtain a college degree, serve in the Italian Army during World War I and gain a spot in the Italian Senate.

He also drew praise as "the only genius to operate in the breeding world." Tesio bred, owned and trained 22 winners of the Italian Derby. Champions Nearco, *Ribot, Braque and Cavaliere d'Arpino influenced the Thoroughbred breed for generations–and continue to do so. He wrote extensively on the craft, in his 1947 manuscript "The Pure Blood: An Animal of Experimentation" and later through various English translations including *Breeding The Racehorse*.

The books, and Tesio's thoughts on breeding, have been used by horsemen for generations–all, like the author, looking to unlock the secrets of breeding successful Thoroughbreds.

Thanks to a local Sons of Italy chapter, Tesio is connected to Maryland–first via the Tesio Awards Dinner launched in 1977 to honor racing excellence in Maryland and beyond. At a popular event at Martin's West (complete with dinner, dancing and all the rest), horses and humans were recognized for annual achievement and other contributions to the game. The Maryland Horse Breeders Association took over the awards, with a Tesio now presented periodically as a single award for "extraordinary contributions" to the state's Thoroughbred industry. Recent honorees include Racing Commission chair Bruce Quade and state Sen. Thomas V. "Mike" Miller on a long list.

In 1981, Pimlico Race Course added another link to Maryland by renaming the Survivor Stakes in honor of Tesio. Now run at Laurel, the Tesio has long been a key prep for the Preakness Stakes-G1.

This year, the MHBA and the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association will celebrate Tesio once more with a breakfast lecture, "Tesio Talk" in the International Room at Laurel Park April 15. The day will feature a continental breakfast followed by a panel discussion with industry leaders about Tesio's influence on the breed. Speakers include Country Life Farm's Josh Pons and Bonita Farm's J. William Boniface. This year's Tesio Stakes will be run that day and feature some of the region's top 3-year-olds. Some, undoubtedly, will trace to Tesio's breeding. Tickets are free,

but attendees should register by emailing bremsberg@marylandthoroughbred.com or calling (410) 252-2100.

Pons called himself something of a novice when it comes to Tesio, but is perpetually impressed by the Italian breeder's impact on racing all these years later. Pons, whose farm stands three stallions from Tesio pedigrees (Divining Rod, Friesan Fire and Mosler), said Maryland is a fitting connection.

"I'm familiar with what he did and how he did it even if I don't know a lot about him," Pons said. "There are similarities between Maryland breeders, or any regional breeders, and Tesio. He was in a region, he had to send his horses abroad to get to really good stallions and he was always looking for a bargain."

Tesio bought a silk-worm farm and turned it into Dormello Stud, Italy's largest and most successful Thoroughbred nursery complete with facilities for in-foal mares, barren mares, yearlings and racehorses. He pioneered various breeding theories, looking to tap into superior genes for speed, ability, what he called "nervous energy" and other traits to help racehorses succeed.

He is best known for Nearco, the foundation of a sire line that includes Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner and legendary stallion Northern Dancer, who stood in Maryland for many years at Windfields Farm, and Bold Ruler, sire of the great Secretariat. Tesio (who died in 1954) also bred *Ribot, an undefeated two-time winner of the prestigious Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe who became one of the world's top stallions. Named the fourth greatest Italian athlete of the 20th century, *Ribot won all 16 starts as a racehorse, and stood at stud in England and at Kentucky's Darby Dan Farm. His impact on the breed stretches a variety of directions through sons (and full-brothers) Graustark and His Majesty, plus Tom Rolfe, Arts and Letters, grandson Hoist the Flag, grandson Run the Gantlet, great-grandson Alleged and dozens of others.

Boniface and his family bred, raised, owned and trained 1983 Preakness winner Deputed Testamony, the last Maryland-bred to win the Preakness and winner of the 1983 Tesio in his final prep for the middle jewel of the Triple Crown. Even Deputed Testamony carried a link to Tesio as his ancestors include Tracery and St. Simon, sire lines the great breeder tried to connect to with his matings.

"I've been a big fan of his," said Boniface. "Back in the early '60s when I was starting to stand stallions, I read his book and was very impressed with the way he could scientifically explain it and still make parallels where a layman could understand his theories."

Boniface singled out one where Tesio compared the ways his horses and his dogs reacted to thunderstorms. The horses, of course, ran around the fields and resisted efforts to get them in the barn. The dogs, on the other hand, bolted toward the house and barely waited for the door to open before racing inside.

Tesio's conclusion, paraphrased by Boniface, was that Thoroughbreds descend from Arabian horses which lived in the desert and welcomed the relief of a storm. Dogs, in Tesio's case German Shepherds, descend from wolves which wait out a storm in their dens.

"Don't give away all my stories before the talk," Boniface said while diving into a second Tesio nugget. You'll have to get to Laurel for the talk to learn more. ❧

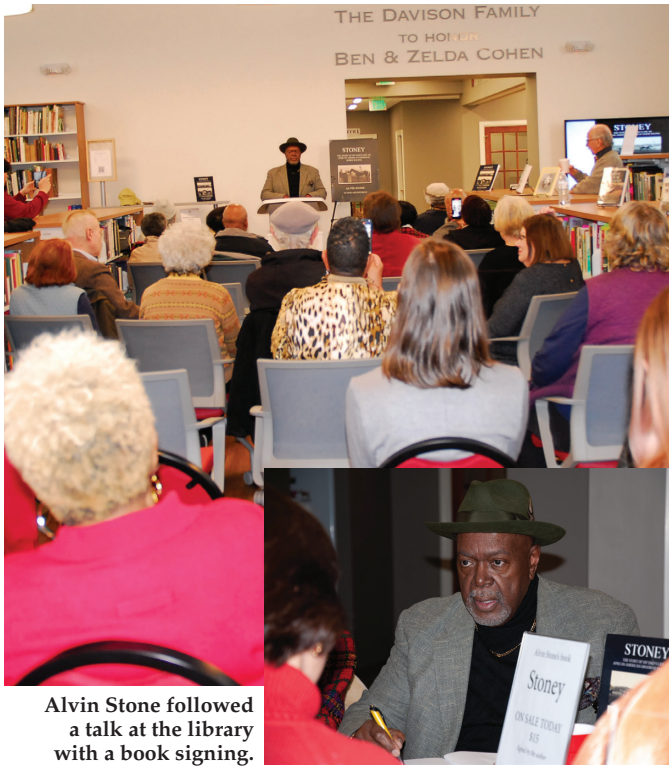
Library hosts first author talk

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center hosted its first author talk Feb. 27 with Maryland resident Alvin Stone, who discussed his book *Stoney: the Story of My Dad's Life as an African-American Groom in Horse Racing*.

Walker "Stoney" Stone was a highly respected groom who plied his trade for more than 50 years in Maryland and passed on his love and knowledge of the sport to his son.

"I always told my father that one day I would write a book about his life," said Stone. "You always hear about the horse, the jockey, the trainer, and the owner. But you never hear about the backstretch help. The grooms.

"It's a very very hard job. . . but he and my mother were able to raise nine children and make ends meet."



Alvin Stone followed a talk at the library with a book signing.

The family's history in the sport began in Kentucky. In 1919, Stoney, then 13, received permission from his parents to work for Guy Bedwell, who sent out that year's Triple Crown winner Sir Barton. The job took Stoney to Canada.

Within a few years Stoney was working in Maryland, where he met Alice Prater, got married and established roots.

In the book, Stone introduces readers to Maryland farms and racetracks, many of which no longer exist, and the stables of Harry and Jane Lunger's Christiana, Marion duPont Scott's Montpelier and Stuart Janney's Locust Hill where his father worked. Legendary trainers Bedwell, Henry Clark, Frank Bonsal, Grover "Bud" Delp and Frank Whiteley, to name a few, weave through Stoney's life.

"He was aways sought after to work with stables," said Stone. "He was said to have the touch."

Responding to questions from the audience, Stone recalled his father's typical day at work, what he was like away from the track–"my father was unique in his style; he was a dresser. When he would get off from work, nobody would even think he worked on the racetrack around horses all day long,"–where he and the horses traveled, and a favorite horse (Scott's champion Mongo).

"I liked Mongo so much I named my dog for him," said Stone.

The book includes rare photographs, as well as sketches by artist Raoul Middleman, whose murals grace Pimlico.

"One of my nephews, his daughter is married to Raoul's son. They have two kids," said Stone. "One day the family had Raoul over for dinner. Raoul saw a picture of [Stoney] and got excited. He didn't know [about the racing connection]. Once Raoul found out that I was writing a book about my father's life, he offered to do the illustrations in the book."

Stone's labor of love comes through on every page.

"He often shared his experiences with me of how he became successful in his craft as a groom that led to his future experiences in life and the game of horse racing," Stone writes. "His name and reputation live on today. Stoney did not have an extensive formal education but was a master in his craft." ❧

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center plans to host programs the fourth Monday of every month. Visit marylandhorse.com/library or follow the Maryland Horse Foundation on social media platforms for details.

MHBA presents 2022 yearling show premiums

Yearlings at the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's annual show, regardless of class standing, are eligible for $40,000 in purse premiums from the Maryland-bred Fund based on racetrack performance as 2- and 3-year-olds. The awards are split and distributed twice–$20,000 among the exhibitors of the top four earners at 2 and another $20,000 among the exhibitors of the leading four at 3. All earnings are verified with The Jockey Club. The premium is distributed 65 percent to the exhibitor of the leading earner, 20 percent to second, 10 percent to third and 5 percent to fourth.

Shown in 2020—3-year-olds in 2022
Judge: Michael Matz

Uncle Irish—$181,937
ch.c., Uncle Lino—Go Get'm Irish, by Kitalpha; shown in Class II by Charles Blanford.

Crabs N Beer—$154,359
gr./ro.c., Blofeld—Get'm Up Pronto, by Kitalpha; shown in Class I by Charles Blanford.
In 2022: 3rd James W. Murphy S, Maryland Million Turf S.

Fuhgeddaboudit—$112,323
dk.b./br.f., Great Notion—Outwithbigdaddy, by Outflanker; shown in Class III by No Guts No Glory Farm.

One Silk Stocking—$110,200
ch.f., Lord Nelson—Keep Right, by Street Cry (Ire); 5th in Class IV, shown by Country Life Farm and Keep Right.

Shown in 2021—2-year-olds in 2022
Judge: Gary Contessa

Malibu Moonshine—$155,880
ch.f., Bourbon Courage—Sunday in Malibu, by Malibu Moon; shown in Class III by Dr. Ronald Harris Parker.
In 2022: Won Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship S, Gin Talking S.

Landon Jack—$76,380
b.g., Friesan Fire—Katie's Caddie, by Lion Hearted; shown in Class I by Fred T. Lewis, DVM.

Blind Spot—$72,800
gr./ro.f., Cross Traffic—Your Flame in Me, by Boundary; 4th in Class IV, shown by Country Life Farm and Your Flame in Me. *In 2022:* Won Our Dear Peggy S.

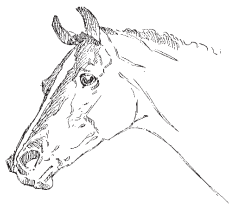
Mysisternancy—$71,845
b.f., Mosler—Parade of Colors, by Leading the Parade; shown in Class III by John E. Williamson III.

SAVE THE DATE

2023 MHBA Annual Yearling Show

Sunday, July 23

Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium



Maryland Foal Report

ANNA'S BANDIT, by Great Notion, b.c., Jan. 10, by Tapit. No Guts No Glory Farm and Tapit Syndicate. Mare to Frosted.

BEKKI'S DANCE, by Dance With Ravens, b.f., March 1, by Yoshida (Jpn). Dr. Ronald Harris Parker. Mare to Vekoma.

CONTRADANCE, by Yes It's True, dk.b./br.f., Feb. 2, by Irish War Cry. Bell Gable Stable.

DIRIGO, by Pioneerof the Nile, b.c., Jan. 20, by Cloud Computing. All The Way Stables LLC. Mare to Divining Rod.

DISCATSONTHESQUARE, by Square Eddie, dk.b./br.c., Feb. 11, by Take Charge Indy. Black Cloud Racing Stable LLC.

DYNABEE, by English Channel, b.c., Feb. 14, by Rowayton. Gokmen Kaya.

ECLIPTICALSROSETTE, by Storm Wolf, b.c., Feb. 2, by Classic Empire. Maria M. Haire.

EVERLASTING SECRET, by Leroidesanimaux (Brz), b.c., Jan. 4, by Great Notion. Frances Luther.

EYE OF RA, by Leroidesanimaux (Brz), ch.c., Feb. 19, by Divining Rod. Tony and Dawn Bowling.

FAST FIONNUALA, by Verrazano, ch.c., Feb. 19, by Irish War Cry. SAB Stables Inc.

FIFTEEN ROYALS, by Palace Malice, b.f., Feb. 2, by Divining Rod. Country Life Farm and Fifteen Royals Broodmare LLC.

FLORAL HALL, by Bodemeister, b.f., Feb. 6, by Frosted. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Vandelay Stables LLC, Daniel Summers and Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Greatest Honour.

FOREST FUNDS, by Forestry, dk.b./br.f., March 7, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

IZZADORA BELLA, by Hey Chub, ch.f., Feb. 6, by Volatile. All The Way Stables LLC.

JUST CATTY, by Catienus, ch.c., Feb. 20, by Uncle Lino. Sebastiano Ciaccio.

LOVE'S LEGEND, by Not For Love, ch.c., Feb. 22, by Divining Rod. Jerry Knauer.

MAKE AMENDS, by Malibu Moon, b.c., Feb. 8, by Yaupon. Country Life Farm and Make Amends LLC. Mare to Mandaloun.

MISS NONDESCRIPT, by Mosler, dk.b./br.c., Jan. 25, by Divining Rod. Country Life Farm and Miss Nondescript LLC. Mare to Take Charge Indy.

MOSTLY ELVIS, by Peace Rules, b.c., Jan. 21, by Engage. Maria M. Haire.

MY ADELINE, by Girolamo, b.c., Feb. 4, by Mo Town. James McIngvale.

MY MISCHIEF, by Into Mischief, b.f., Jan. 9, by Galawi (Ire). Mr. and Mrs. A. John Price. Mare to Galawi (Ire).

OL SANISH, by Curlin, ch.c., March 3, by Goldencents. James B. Steele.

REQUESTING, by Giant's Causeway, b.f., Jan. 29, by Rock Your World. Barak Farm. Mare to Thousand Words.

RESILIENT ONE, by Hard Spun, b.c., March 8, by Thousand Words. Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC. Mare to Greatest Honour.

ROSIE O' DARLIN, by Wiseman's Ferry, b.f., Feb. 18, by Galawi (Ire). David Krasnoff, Filippa Boughton and Jason Cole.

SAMURAI STEPH, by Lea, ch.c., Feb. 5, by Madefromlucky. SAB Stables Inc.

SHE'S CURLY, by Curlin, ch.f., Feb. 10, by Divining Rod. Carl Lanier.

SOCIAL ANIMAL, by Animal Kingdom, b.c., Feb. 17, by Astern (Aus). Lexis Chase.

SUGAR SHACK, by Shackleford, ch.c., Jan. 30, by Friesan Fire. James Stevenson.

SUNRISEBERNSTEINI, by Bernstein, b.c., Feb. 14, by Hoppertunity. Frances Luther.

SWIMMER, by Rock Slide, b.f., Feb. 14, by Editorial. Wes Carter.

THIRST FOR DIAMOND, by Stay Thirsty, b.f., Feb. 8, by Hoppertunity. Paul F. Neiber and Rosemarie Neiber.

TIZ MOI, by Gemologist, ch.f., Feb. 13, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

TRIPSCAR, by Stroll, b.f., Feb. 6, by Temple City. Barak Farm.

WOWWHATABRAT, by Louis Quatorze, ch.f., Jan. 19, by Jimmy Creed. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC and Housatonic Bloodstock LLC. Mare to Blofeld.

YESSHEWILL, by Giant's Causeway, dk.b./br.f., Jan. 20, by Rock Your World. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Thomas Johnson, Vandelay Stables LLC and Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Rock Your World.

Ellen Pons

Clockwise from far left: Michael and Marie Trombetta's filly is by Independence Hall out of Candystand, by Candy Ride (Arg); West Coast colt out of the Silver Train stakes winner Bawlmer Hon, and McKinzie filly out of Moon Virginia (by Jump Start), were bred by Tom and Chris Bowman and Milton Higgins; All The Way Stables' Cloud Computing colt out of Dirigo (Pioneerof the Nile); Wasabi Ventures Stables and partners' Rock Your World filly out of Yesshewill (by Giant's Causeway).

George Adams

Ellen Pons

Lydia A. Williams (2)

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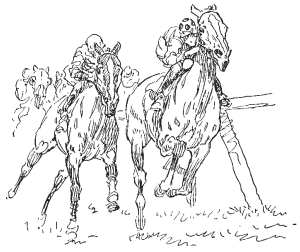

Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races run in December 2022 at Maryland tracks

Maryland Juvenile Championship Stakes

December 3. Purse $100,000-guaranteed. For 2-year-olds, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 7 fur. 7 competed. (Closed with 17 nominations.) Winner: POST TIME, by Frosted. Breeder bonus: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Dr. Brooke Bowman and Milton P. Higgins III ($13,500). Stallion bonus: None. Second: JOHNYZ FROM ALBANY, by Blofeld. Breeder bonus: Charles J. Reed ($4,500). Stallion bonus: Blofeld Syndicate ($1,500). Third: COFFEEWITHCHRIS, by Ride On Curlin. Breeder bonus: Thomas Rooney ($2,250). Stallion bonus: None.

Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes

December 3. Purse $100,000-guaranteed. For 2-year-old fillies, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 7 fur. 10 competed. (Closed with 18 nominations.) Winner: MALIBU MOONSHINE, by Bourbon Courage. Breeder bonus: Ronald Harris Parker ($13,500). Stallion bonus: Bourbon Courage Syndicate ($4,500). Second: FAST TRACKED, by Cross Traffic. Breeder bonus: ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable ($4,500). Stallion bonus: None. Third: GORMLEY'S GABRIELA, by Gormley. Breeder bonus: Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose ($2,250). Stallion bonus: None.

Breeder bonuses

Includes the additional 10 percent Maryland-sired bonus for winners of maiden races, initiated Jan. 1 during the 2022 Laurel winter meet. That bonus is reflected in the second figure earned for the race.

Amy H. Daney Bloodstock—Pray for the U S A: Dec. 10, 6th race, $517.50.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—She'sarollingstone: Dec. 3, 2nd race, $5,805. Uncommon Valor: Dec. 29, 9th race, $517.50. Winked: Dec. 9, 8th race, $1,215. ($7,537.50)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Finn's Nickel LLC—R B's the Boss: Dec. 11, 8th race, $1,215.

Barak Farm—She Is Wisky: Dec. 9, 7th race, $990. Vodkatini: Dec. 3, 2nd race, $1,935. ($2,925)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—Alottacents: Dec. 10, 7th race, $7,020. Isabella's Glory: Dec. 2, 7th race, $1,305. Trash Talkin Larry: Dec. 4, 5th race, $4,725; Dec. 17, 2nd race, $1,980. ($15,030)

David Baxter Sr.—Hemp: Dec. 18, 6th race, $2,160. Miss Casey: Dec. 3, 9th race, $1,080; Dec. 29, 4th race, $540. ($3,780)

Bell Gable Stable—Hop and Scotch: Dec. 10, 3rd race, $810.

Black Fox Farm—Auspicious Lad: Dec. 29, 7th race, $4,725.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—Imagine It All: Dec. 9, 6th race, $3,915/$1,305. ($5,220)

Bonita Farm and Partners—Sigmund: Dec. 9, 4th race, $562.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—Cynergy's Electra: Dec. 30, 6th race, $1,170. Proper Attire: Dec. 29, 8th race, $4,320. ($5,490)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Michael Bishop—Coronova: Dec. 17, 4th race, $2,430.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Dr. Brooke Bowman and Milton P. Higgins III—Post Time: Dec. 3, 8th race, $13,500.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Alwaysinahurry: Dec. 18, 7th race, $9,450. Clubman: Dec. 18, 2nd race, $3,510. ($12,960)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Tom Terrific: Dec. 2, 4th race, $810.

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Rustys Gfivefifty: Dec. 17, 2nd race, $5,940.

Maryland-bred top earners in 2023

(through March 6)

1.	Eastern Bay	$150,000	
2.	Fille d'Esprit	110,000	
3.	Response Time	105,340	
4.	Al Loves Josie	82,800	
5.	Coffeewithchris	80,000	
6.	Fuhgeddaboudit	76,860	
7.	Torch of Truth	70,380	
8.	Mit Mazel	66,000	
9.	Award Wanted	65,000	
10.	Captain Quint	62,100	
11.	Easy Action	$59,200	
12.	Plot the Dots	53,030	
13.	Dancing Sophia	50,050	
14.	Cactus	49,800	
15.	Circling the Drain	49,680	
	Proper Attire	49,680	
17.	Holy Synchronicity	48,810	
18.	Backnthewoods	48,300	
19.	Forth	48,000	
20.	Feeling Woozy	47,260	

Shellaine Brown, Susan Baldrige, Horseshoe Valley, Treasure Stable—Going to the Lead: Dec. 10, 8th race, $1,395; Dec. 18, 7th race, $3,150. ($4,545)

Louis C. Carrico—Alliallioxenfree: Dec. 4, 9th race, $5,940.

Christine Clagett and Leslie Elizabeth Wilson—My Super Sally: Dec. 3, 9th race, $3,240.

Clover Hill Farm Inc.—Bo's Bourbon: Dec. 17, 3rd race, $1,800.

Randy L. Cohen and Alyse L. Cohen—Sweet Sensation: Dec. 9, 5th race, $517.50.

Cordelia Stables LLC—Victorian Riviera: Dec. 2, 7th race, $652.50.

Cottonwood Stable LLC—Seven's Eleven: Dec. 30, 1st race, $1,980.

Country Life Farm—Response Time: Dec. 4, 8th race, $7,830.

Country Life Farm, Paul Berube and Karen Linnel—Captain Quint: Dec. 9, 6th race, $1,305.

Country Life Farm and Curio Broodmare LLC—Targe: Dec. 3, 3rd race, $3,510.

Country Life Farm and Imagistic Broodmare II LLC—Sweet Talia: Dec. 2, 6th race, $630.

Country Life Farm and Lawless Love LLC—Divine Law: Dec. 10, 2nd race, $4,725.

Country Roads Ltd.—Lassman: Dec. 10, 2nd race, $787.50. My Flicker: Dec. 16, 8th race, $1,080. ($1,867.50)

Crystal Park Stables Inc.—Brilliant Ice: Dec. 30, 11th race, $5,940/$1,980. ($7,920)

Dark Hollow Farm—Betcha by Golly: Dec. 3, 3rd race, $585. Haleigh B: Dec. 11, 9th race, $3,915. Oxide: Dec. 4, 7th race, $990. ($5,490)

Dark Hollow Farm, D. Brown, Davidov and Schwaber—Dr Rags: Dec. 4, 3rd race, $1,035.

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—Combat Queen: Dec. 16, 8th race, $6,480.

Deer Creek Racing—Mo Fire: Dec. 3, 1st race, $540.

George L. Doetsch—Winston's Gold: Dec. 29, 5th race, $1,035.

Annette Eubanks—Lookin for Justice: Dec. 31, 2nd race, $1,260.

Annette Eubanks and Daniel Eubanks—Lookin Spunky: Dec. 4, 4th race, $562.50; Dec. 29, 3rd race, $3,375/$1,125. ($5,062.50)

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Gormley's Gabriela: Dec. 3, 7th race, $2,250.

Fitzhugh LLC—Welling: Dec. 4, 7th race, $495.

William and Mary Gale—Highland Dream: Dec. 11, 2nd race, $1,080.

Robert J. Gerczak—Hov Lane: Dec. 9, 5th race, $1,035.

Germania Farms—Omo Dada: Dec. 10, 7th race, $2,340.

Glenangus Farm LLC—Riccio: Dec. 30, 4th race, $2,250.

Grandview Stable Inc. and Dominick J. Juno—Dolice Vita: Dec. 18, 5th race, $3,240; Dec. 31, 2nd race, $3,780. ($7,020)

Maria M. Haire—Noah Chance: Dec. 17, 3rd race, $5,400.

Michael J. Harrison DVM—Donna's Courage: Dec. 16, 1st race, $990.

Nancy B. Heil—Karan's Notion: Dec. 10, 8th race, $8,370.

Highclere and Five Hellions Farm—Free Square: Dec. 17, 5th race, $2,295.

Hope Hill Farm—Imagine a Cure: Dec. 11, 5th race, $652.50.

Hot Silks Racing Stable LLC—If Then: Dec. 31, 5th race, $540.

Ann B. Jackson—Brzina: Dec. 4, 9th race, $1,980.

Jagger Inc.—Chickieness: Dec. 17, 7th race, $7,290. Freddyness: Dec. 2, 2nd race, $1,552.50. ($8,842.50)

R. Larry Johnson—Call Me Maestro: Dec. 16, 5th race, $3,375. Notimelikepresent: Dec. 16, 5th race, $1,125. ($4,500)

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Blame the Bourbon: Dec. 11, 1st race, $1,170. Stardust Ziggy: Dec. 30, 3rd race, $3,375/$1,125. ($5,670)

Lewis Family Racing Stable—Celtic Cousen: Dec. 9, 2nd race, $2,340.

Estate of Fred T. Lewis Sr. DVM—Landon Jack: Dec. 30, 1st race, $5,940/$1,980. ($7,920)

Daniel Lunceford, Jennifer Lunceford and Echo Valley Farm—Poet in My Heart: Dec. 4, 4th race, $3,375/$1,125; Dec. 31, 9th race, $517.50. ($5,017.50)

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—Imaginetheodds: Dec. 31, 3rd race, $810.

Daniel E. Marconi—Bella Bettina: Dec. 31, 9th race, $3,105.

Helen C. Marshall—Take Charge Too: Dec. 9, 2nd race, $1,170. Dec. 30, 11th race, $1,980. ($3,150)

Maryland Mare Venture LLC—Ellie Victorina: Dec. 2, 5th race, $1,620.

Peter D. Mattson—Angelofcanterbury: Dec. 18, 3rd race, $900.

Murmur Farm—Bonded: Dec. 9, 4th race, $3,375/$1,125. Royal Spy: Dec. 11, 2nd race, $3,240. ($7,740)

No Guts No Glory Farm—General J R: Dec. 10, 3rd race, $1,620.

Charles V. Parker—Forth: Dec. 29, 2nd race, $1,260. Mose Perfect: Dec. 16, 6th race, $7,290. ($8,550)

Ronald Harris Parker—Malibu Moonshine: Dec. 3, 7th race, $13,500; Dec. 30, 5th race, $13,500. ($27,000)

A. Leonard Pineau—Wired In: Dec. 16, 5th race, $562.50.

Joel Politi—Bosserati: Dec. 18, 3rd race, $1,800. Dunder Boss: Dec. 29, 1st race, $3,375/$1,125. Thunder Boss: Dec. 4, 9th race, $990. ($7,290)

Charles J. Reed—Johnyz From Albany: Dec. 3, 8th race, $4,500.

Tim Ritchey and Janet Ritchey—Dancer's Melody: Dec. 31, 4th race, $2,430.

Rolling Meadows Farm—Brooklyn Girl: Dec. 16, 1st race, $1,980. Pride of Payton: Dec. 30, 1st race, $990. ($2,970)

Thomas Rooney—Coffeewithchris: Dec. 3, 8th race, $2,250; Dec. 30, 4th race, $13,500. ($15,750)

Alexandro Rubim-Dias—Award Wanted: Dec. 18, 8th race, $8,370.

Janice Sinatra—Jackie A: Dec. 18, 6th race, $6,480.

Skeedattle Associates—Best Choice Baby: Dec. 3, 5th race, $1,125; Dec. 30, 3rd race, $562.50. ($1,687.50)

Hamilton A. Smith—I'm Gittin There: Dec. 9, 7th race, $1,980.

Stephen E. Smith and Denise Jones—Tiz No Clown: Dec. 31, 7th race, $7,290.

Matt Spencer and Kelly Cox—Ain't Da Beer Cold: Dec. 30, 10th race, $4,500.

Spendthrift Farm LLC—Breviary: Dec. 2, 8th race, $720.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Addy's Laddy T N T: Dec. 29, 2nd race, $630. Circling the Drain: Dec. 9, 9th race, $5,940. Frightland: Dec. 11, 6th race, $1,215. Goodafternoonoscar: Dec. 10, 7th race, $1,170. Honor Your Mother: Dec. 3, 1st race, $1,080; Dec. 29, 4th race, $3,240. Paisley Singing: Dec. 18, 8th race, $1,395. Smart Eulee: Dec. 9, 8th race, $2,430. Sweet Gracie: Dec. 4, 8th race, $1,305. ($18,405)

The Elkstone Group LLC—Click to Confirm: Dec. 18, 1st race, $990. La Casa d'Oro: Dec. 16, 8th race, $2,160. Vax a Nation: Dec. 9, 9th race, $1,980. ($5,130)

Thomas L. Teal—Rad Paisley: Dec. 3, 4th race, $1,440; Dec. 18, 6th race, $1,080. Ruxton Rocks: Dec. 11, 3rd race, $3,375. ($5,895)

Thornmar Farm LLC—Lost Weekend: Dec. 31, 7th race, $2,430. Made It: Dec. 4, 4th race, $1,125. Raise Your Game: Dec. 10, 6th race, $3,105. Royal Thunder: Dec. 4, 2nd race, $990. Startwithabang: Dec. 9, 1st race, $3,780. ($11,430)

Walter N. Vieser II—Blameitonthefun: Dec. 2, 9th race, $3,105. Italian Dressing: Dec. 2, 8th race, $4,320. ($7,425)

Robert S. Vukelic—Crouchelli: Dec. 16, 3rd race, $900.

David H. Wade—Rominski: Dec. 10, 9th race, $3,780.

Linda M. Walls—Flamingo Faze: Dec. 17, 7th race, $2,430.

Susan Wantz—Mosler Safe: Dec. 29, 5th race, $517.50.

John E. Williamson III—Mysisternancy: Dec. 16, 1st race, $5,940/$1,980. Ournationonparade: Dec. 30, 10th race, $2,250. ($10,170)

Willow Oaks Stable LLC—Under the Radar: Dec. 18, 4th race, $4,320.

Donald Clifford Wilson—Thencomemorning: Dec. 11, 3rd race, $1,125.

Dorothy E. Worton—No Me Digas: Dec. 31, 1st race, $3,375/$1,125. ($4,500)

ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable—Fast Tracked: Dec. 3, 7th race, $4,500. Malibu Beauty: Dec. 30, 9th race, $13,500. ($18,000)

Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (Hov Lane: Dec. 9, 5th race, $345): Robert Gerczak.

BANDBOX (Seven's Eleven: Dec. 30, 1st race, $660. Sweet Gracie: Dec. 4, 8th race, $435): Bandbox Syndicate—$1,095.

BLOFELD (Bonded: Dec. 9, 4th race, $1,125. Brooklyn Girl: Dec. 16, 1st race, $660. Chickieness: Dec. 17, 7th race, $2,430. Johnyz From Albany: Dec. 3, 8th race, $1,500. Miss Casey: Dec. 3, 9th race, $360; Dec. 29, 4th race, $180. Pray for the U S A: Dec. 10, 6th race, $172.50. Pride of Payton: Dec. 30, 1st race, $330. Royal Spy: Dec. 11, 2nd race, $1,080): Blofeld Syndicate—$7,837.50.

BOURBON COURAGE (Blame the Bourbon: Dec. 11, 1st race, $390. Donna's Courage: Dec. 16, 1st race, $330. Malibu Moonshine: Dec. 3, 7th race, $4,500; Dec. 30, 5th race, $4,500. She'sarollingstone: Dec. 3, 2nd race, $1,935. Uncommon Valor: Dec. 29, 9th race, $172.50): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$11,827.50.

BUFFUM (Malibu Beauty: Dec. 30, 9th race, $4,500. My Super Sally: Dec. 3, 9th race, $1,080): Buffum Syndicate—$5,580.

CAL NATION (Ournationonparade: Dec. 30, 10th race, $750): Cal Nation Syndicate.

CUBA (No Me Digas: Dec. 31, 1st race, $1,125): J&S Stables LLC.

DIVINING ROD (Bo's Bourbon: Dec. 17, 3rd race, $600. Divine Law: Dec. 10, 2nd race, $1,575. Poet in My Heart: Dec. 4, 4th race, $1,125; Dec. 31, 9th race, $172.50. Rustys Gfivefifty: Dec. 17, 2nd race, $1,980. Sweet Talia: Dec. 2, 6th race, $210. Under the Radar: Dec. 18, 4th race, $1,440. Vodkatini: Dec. 3, 2nd race, $645): Divining Rod Syndicate—$7,747.50.

DORTMUND (Dolice Vita: Dec. 18, 5th race, $1,080; Dec. 31, 2nd race, $1,260. Sigmund: Dec. 9, 4th race, $187.50. Victorian Riviera: Dec. 2, 7th race, $217.50): Kaleem S. Shah—$2,745.

FREEDOM CHILD (Ain't Da Beer Cold: Dec. 30, 10th race, $1,500. Free Square: Dec. 17, 5th race, $765. Tom Terrific: Dec. 2, 4th race, $270): Freedom Child Syndicate—$2,535.

FRIESAN FIRE (Landon Jack: Dec. 30, 1st race, $1,980. Mo Fire: Dec. 3, 1st race, $180. Thencomemorning: Dec. 11, 3rd race, $375): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$2,535.

GOLDEN LAD (Addy's Laddy T N T: Dec. 29, 2nd race, $210. Auspicious Lad: Dec. 29, 7th race, $1,575. Honor Your Mother: Dec. 3, 1st race, $360; Dec. 29, 4th race, $1,080. I'm Gittin There: Dec. 9, 7th race, $660. Omo Dada: Dec. 10, 7th race, $780. Oxide: Dec. 4, 7th race, $330. Paisley Singing: Dec. 18, 8th race, $465. Winston's Gold: Dec. 29, 5th race, $345): Golden Lad Syndicate—$5,805.

GREAT NOTION (Alwaysinahurry: Dec. 18, 7th race, $3,150. Brilliant Ice: Dec. 30, 11th race, $1,980. Brzina: Dec. 4, 9th race, $660. Freddyness: Dec. 2, 2nd race, $517.50. Italian Dressing: Dec. 2, 8th race, $1,440. Karan's Notion: Dec. 10, 8th race, $2,790. Lost Weekend: Dec. 31, 7th race, $810. My Flicker: Dec. 16, 8th race, $360. Noah Chance: Dec. 17, 3rd race, $1,800. Rominski: Dec. 10, 9th race, $1,260. Smart Eulee: Dec. 9, 8th race, $810): Great Notion Syndicate—$15,577.50.

HOLY BOSS (Bosserati: Dec. 18, 3rd race, $600. Dunder Boss: Dec. 29, 1st race, $1,125. General J R: Dec. 10, 3rd race, $540. R B's the Boss: Dec. 11, 8th race, $405. Thunder Boss: Dec. 4, 9th race, $330): Holy Boss Syndicate—$3,000.

IMAGINING (Imagine a Cure: Dec. 11, 5th race, $217.50. Imagine It All: Dec. 9, 6th race, $1,305. Imaginetheodds: Dec. 31, 3rd race, $270. Proper Attire: Dec. 29, 8th race, $1,440. Stardust Ziggy: Dec. 30, 3rd race, $1,125. Winked: Dec. 9, 8th race, $405): Imagining Syndicate—$4,762.50.

KOBE'S BACK (Trash Talkin Larry: Dec. 4, 5th race, $1,575; Dec. 17, 2nd race, $660): Bonita Farm—$2,235.

MADEFROMLUCKY (Best Choice Baby: Dec. 3, 5th race, $375; Dec. 30, 3rd race, $187.50. Cynergy's Electra: Dec. 30, 6th race, $390. Lookin Spunky: Dec. 4, 4th race, $187.50; Dec. 29, 3rd race, $1,125): Madefromlucky Syndicate—$2,265.

MOSLER (Captain Quint: Dec. 9, 6th race, $435. Flamingo Faze: Dec. 17, 7th race, $810. Mose Perfect: Dec. 16, 6th race, $2,430. Mosler Safe: Dec. 29, 5th race, $172.50. Mysisternancy: Dec. 16, 1st race, $1,980. Response Time: Dec. 4, 8th race, $2,610): Mosler Syndicate—$8,437.50.

NO NEVER NO MORE (Tiz No Clown: Dec. 31, 7th race, $2,430): Tigertail Ranch.

NOT FOR LOVE (Clubman: Dec. 18, 2nd race, $1,170): Not For Love Syndicate.

OUTFLANKER (Crouchelli: Dec. 16, 3rd race, $300): Outflanker Syndicate.

REDEEMED (Going to the Lead: Dec. 10, 8th race, $465; Dec. 18, 7th race, $1,050): Redeemed Syndicate—$1,515.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Breviary: Dec. 2, 8th race, $240. Hemp: Dec. 18, 6th race, $720): Country Life Farm—$960.

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **April 2023** -

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Mildred Fleming passes away

Mildred "Millie" Fleming, age 84, of Englewood Cliffs, passed away on Feb. 4. Millie was well known throughout the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey. She served two terms as the President of the TBANJ and also served as a board member prior to her terms as president.

Millie bred Thoroughbred horses for almost 50 years and was the 2022 recipient of the Virgil "Buddy" Raines Award. She shared her passion for Thoroughbreds with her husband, Larry, and raced exclusively New Jersey-bred horses.

Millie had no idea what she was getting into 47 years ago when her husband suggested the couple buy a Thoroughbred race horse. That $7,500 claimer, named Joanne's Pet, launched a career that saw Fleming accomplish a great deal and develop lasting friendships in the Thoroughbred industry.

Fleming, who also taught Equine Studies at Centenary College in Hackettstown, was proud of the strides that were made for New Jersey-breds during her six years as president of the TBANJ.

Born in Hoboken, Millie was a teacher throughout the Union City School System. She taught in the elementary school, Union Hill, and Emerson High School over a 25-year period before retiring in 1994. Millie was a graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart, earned her Bachelor's Degree at Jersey City State, and went on to obtain her Master's Degree in Education at St. Peter's University.

Millie Fleming with her husband Larry.

She was the beloved wife of 51 years to Larry, the devoted mother of Victoria D'Arrigo and Richard Bielfeld, and the cherished grandmother of three.

Donations may be made in her memory to Second Call, Thoroughbred Adoption and Placement, P.O Box 113, Helmetta, N.J. 08828.

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Sea Wizard under new ownership

Sea Wizard, an exciting son of Uncle Mo who was represented by two winners in his first crop in 2022 has been purchased by Carmine Spinella. Carmine purchased Colonial Farms in 2022 and Sea Wizard will continue to stand at Colonial.

Sea Wizard had progeny earnings of $155,967 despite only having six foals to reach the starting gate in his first crop. Sea Wizard's leading earner, Great Navigator, won at first asking in an open company race at Monmouth Park on June 4 and followed that with an impressive second-place finish in the Sanford Stakes-G3 at Saratoga, defeating eventual Eclipse champion Forte and Curly Jack, winner of the Iroquois Stakes-G3.

To book your mare to Sea Wizard please contact Cameron Betty at 732-966-5804.

Bramble Bay - 2022 NJ-bred Horse of the Year Champion Turf Runner & Older Female

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Michael Dubb's Bramble Bay has been named the 2022 New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year, champion turf runner and champion older female by the TBANJ.

Bramble Bay won the first of two 2022 stakes in the $85,000 Jersey Girl Handicap at 1 mile on the turf against New Jersey-breds on July 9. The 7-year-old mare won the Jersey Girl for the second time in three years, and was second in the 2021 renewal, for breeder/owner Ballybrit Stable LLC and trainer Mike Dini.

Mike Maker claimed Bramble Bay for $62,500 on Aug. 3 at Saratoga for new owner Michael Dubb in a race in which she crossed the wire in sixth place. The new connections chose the $88,000 Pino Grigio Handicap going 5 furlongs over the Monmouth Park turf course and were rewarded when Bramble Bay won for her third victory of the year.

The daughter of Bullet Train (GB) out of Regal Rose, by Empire Maker, finished 2022 with $160,170 in earnings. She won eight of 34 career starts, with earnings of $474,623.

Girl Trouble 2022 NJ-bred Champion 2YO Filly

LC Racing LLC and Swilcan Stable LLC's Girl Trouble was named champion 2-year-old filly after a stakes-winning campaign that saw her cross the wire first in three of her six starts and never finish worse than third. Girl Trouble won in her second start on July 16 against open company fillies at Monmouth, hit the board in her next two starts, including a third-place finish in the $100,000 White Clay Creek Stakes at Delaware Park, and finished her year with two victories at Parx Racing. The daughter of Fast Anna out of Adorabella, by Ghostzapper, won an allowance by 8 lengths before running away from her competition in a similar fashion in the Future Stars Filly Division Stakes.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

She was bred by Gregory J. Kilka and Bright View Farm and raced under the tutelage of trainer Butch Reid.

Great Navigator 2022 NJ-bred Champion 2YO Male

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Holly Crest Farm homebred Great Navigator is the New Jersey-bred champion 2-year-old on the strength of his graded placing in Saratoga's Sanford Stakes-G3. The son of first-crop New Jersey sire Sea Wizard (Uncle Mo) out of the Stephen Got Even mare All Even won his first start June 4 by 5¾ lengths against open maiden special weight company. Great Navigator traveled to Saratoga to run in the Sanford Stakes and finished an excellent second to Mo Strike while defeating Breeders Cup Juvenile-G1 winner and Eclipse Champion Forte and graded stakes winner Curly Jack.

The 2-year-old champion, trained by Eddie Owens Jr., has earnings of $83,300.

I Can Run 2022 NJ-bred Champion 3YO Filly

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

I Can Run's stakes win against older fillies and mares earned her the honor of New Jersey-bred champion 3-year-old filly. The daughter of Tourist out of the Peaks and Valleys mare Hana J was campaigned by Robert D. Bone and Magic Stable LLC and is trained by Claudio Gonzalez. I Can Run broke her maiden in her first start of the year in February, and added a New Jersey-bred allowance, scoring by 12¼ lengths in her first start going two turns, in May. Showing her versatility, I Can Run turned back to the 6-furlong distance in the $104,000 Eleven North Stakes and won by 1¾ lengths against New Jersey-breds.

I Can Run was bred by Bright View Farm and is the third stakes winner out of Hana J, following New Jersey-bred champions Exit Stage Left ($157,750) and Silent Appeal ($325,541).

Speaking 2022 NJ-bred Champion 3YO Male & Sprinter

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Holly Crest Farms homebred Speaking is the champion 3-year-old and champion sprinter after hitting the board in four of his seven starts, for earnings of $146,675. The son of Mr Speaker followed up his championship 2-year-old campaign with two wins against older runners, in the 6-furlong $102,000 New Jersey Breeders Handicap (by 1½ lengths) and a 6-furlong allowance (by 6½ lengths), a second (by a neck) in the Sunny Ridge Handicap going 1 mile, and a third in the Jersey Shore Stakes against open company, all at Monmouth Park.

Speaking has career earnings of $288,100 and is trained by Eddie Owens Jr.

He'spuregold 2022 NJ-bred Champion Older Male

John Bowers Jr.'s He'spuregold was honored as champion older male after showing his versatility to win stakes races on dirt and turf during his 4-year-old season. The previous year's champion turf horse, He'spuregold won the $90,000 Irish War Cry Handicap at 1 mile on the turf by 2½ lengths on July 10 in the second start of his championship campaign. The son of Vancouver (Aus) and the Smart Strike mare Smart N Classy made his first start on dirt a winning one when defeating fellow New Jersey-breds in the $130,000 Charles Hesse III Handicap at 1 1/16 miles. He'spuregold is trained by Kelly J. Breen.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Smart N Classy was a graded stakes winner and two-time New Jersey-bred champion for John Bowers Jr. who earned $466,209. As a broodmare, Smart N Classy has seven winners from seven foals and also produced 2019 New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year Valedictorian ($761,115) and Smart N Classy Handicap winner Stay Smart ($268,080).

He'spuregold has career earnings of $380,620 from a record of 18-6-3-3.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Hey Chub 2022 NJ-bred Stallion of the Year

Hey Chub is the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey's Stallion of the Year for the seventh time in his career. The 23-year-old son of Carson City out of Donna Doo, by Spend a Buck, was a multiple stakes-winning New Jersey-bred who hit the board in 30 of his 36 starts and earned $441,755.

Hey Chub has sired stakes winners Chublicious ($653,393), winner of the 2017 Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash Stakes, 2018 New Jersey-bred champion sprinter Brother Chub ($674,611), eight-time stakes winner Chub Wagon ($669,400) and stakes-placed Chubbiana ($119,872).

Adorabella 2022 NJ-bred Broodmare of the Year

Adorabella was honored as Broodmare of the Year in 2022. Tracy Farmer bred the 7-year-old mare by Ghostzapper out of Alydorable, by Arch. She was purchased by Gregory Kilka out of the Keeneland January 2020 Horses of All Ages Sale in foal to Fast Anna. The resulting foal is 2022 New Jersey-bred Champion 2-year-old filly Girl Trouble.

Girl Trouble continued her racing success in 2023 with a win in the Parx Futurity Stakes, a second in the Ruthless Stakes at Aqueduct and a third in the Main Line Stakes at Parx in three starts.

Adorabella had New Jersey-bred colts by Bucchero (named Book'em Danno) in 2021, and by Classic Empire in 2022.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

April 2023

President's message

Congratulations to Nancy Shuford for two horses entering the winners' circle. Also, credit goes to Clint, Jim and Bill for their horses' achievements.

I am eager to root for Hartful Hope on March 2 at Turfway Park. This NC-Bred filly has two NC connections, breeder Art Bauer and owner Gerard Eckhardt. I've followed and reported on this 3-year-old since she was a yearling.

The Queen's Cup Steeplechase will be held April 29 in Mineral Springs, N.C. Along with the over-hurdle races, a flat race on the turf will also run. Other activities include pony rides, opening ceremonies, tailgate contests, hat contests, and more. Raffle tickets are available for purchase, where 100 percent of the net profits goes to the Alzheimer's Association. The 501c3 nonprofit Charlotte Steeplechase Foundation manages and organizes the event and was founded by NCTA members William and Carrington Price.

Colonial Downs, now owned by Churchill Downs Inc. in New Kent, Va., landed two Grade 1 turf races and one Grade 2 turf race. The Arlington Million (G1), Beverly D Stakes (G1), and Secretariat Stakes (G2) will run Aug. 12. The races were formally staged at Arlington Racecourse. Colonial Downs has the distinction of having the widest turf course in the country. The 2023 meet will be held July 13 through Sept. 9 with 27 live race days. This is great news for racing fans in North Carolina.

That's all for now. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2023, please do.

–Rebecca

Racing Review

Termsofengagement (Liam's Map out of One Foxy Grey, by Big Brown) won at Penn National Jan. 25 in his third start for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 3-year-old gray or roan gelding ran 6 furlongs on a sloppy track in 1:11.73. The son of Liam's Map ran on the rail in a stalking position, angled out after the three-sixteenths pole and ran down his frontrunning rivals to win by a neck. Next time out, Feb. 20, Termsofengagement ran second at Laurel Park in allowance company, running 1⅛ miles on a fast dirt track.

Sag Harbor (Palace out of Dynamite Dame, by El Prado-Ire) won at Charles Town Feb. 8 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 6-year-old chestnut horse ran 6½ furlongs on a fast track in 1:20.95. The son of Palace established inside on the first turn, improved position on the rail rounding the far turn, was determined and under pressure leaving the turn, and gained down the stretch to win by 2 lengths.

Trigger Happy (Gun Runner out of Stayclassysandiego, by Rockport Harbor) ran second at Fair Grounds Feb. 3 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 4-year-old gray or roan gelding ran 1⅛ miles on a fast dirt track.

Fairview (Blofeld out of Free Song, by Hat Trick-Jpn) ran second at Penn National Feb. 9 for breeder James Chandley. The 3-year-old dark bay filly ran 6 furlongs on a fast track.

Cayenne Creek (Misremembered out of Hot Creek Risin', by Bring the Heat) ran third at Charles Town Jan. 28 for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 7-year-old chestnut gelding ran 7 furlongs on a fast track.

Gospel Way (Brody's Cause out of Bible Belt, by Pulpit) took third at Gulfstream Park Feb. 17 for breeder Bill Thompson. The 5-year-old dark bay gelding ran 1 mile of a firm turf course.

Hitting the Board

January 25 – February 24, 2023

Date	Horse	Track	NCTA Connection	RESULTS
25-Jan	Termsofengagement	Penn National	Bred by Nancy Shuford	WINNER!
28-Jan	Cayenne Creek	Charles Town	Bred by Clint Lowry	3rd
9-Feb	Fairview	Penn National	Bred & owned by Jim Chandley	2nd
8-Feb	Sag Harbor	Charles Town	Bred by Nancy Shuford	WINNER!
3-Feb	Trigger Happy	Fair Grounds	Bred by Nancy Shuford	2nd
17-Feb	Gospel Way	Gulfstream Park	Bred by Bill Thompson	3rd
20-Feb	Termsofengagement	Laurel Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	2nd

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Membership includes subscriptions to Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Magazine

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Thank you for your support.

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PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

April 2023
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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- **Racing and breeding news**
- **PA-Bred entries/results**
- **Rules, regulations, forms**

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Pennsylvania stallion roster packs a powerful punch

Champions, graded stakes winners, Grade 1 sires – Pennsylvania stallions offer variety and quality for any mare owner. The following dozen stallions are found on this year's roster of PA-registered sires; go to the 2023 Pennsylvania Stallion & Boarding Farm Directory at pabred.com to see the complete list.

BRODY'S CAUSE

One of Pennsylvania's newest arrivals, this multiple Grade 1 winner and Grade 1 sire is a son of the great racehorse and stallion Giant's Causeway from the female family of Secretariat and Cure the Blues.

With three crops of racing age through 2022, Brody's Cause ranked in the top 10 nationally on the freshman list in 2020, and was among the top 20 on the second and third-crop sires lists the next two years. His runners include daughter Kalypso, winner of Santa Anita's La Brea Stakes-G1 and two additional stakes, and on the board in nine stakes total (six graded). She earned $607,638 in 15 starts before selling as a broodmare prospect at last fall's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky November select sale for $2.1 million to Katsumi Yoshida.

Of Brody's Cause's 10 stakes horses, seven won or placed at 2, including Kalypso and additional graded runners Sittin On Go, third in the Iroquois Stakes-G3; Smiley Sobotka, second in the Kentucky Jockey Club Stakes-G2; and Girther, second in the Grade 2 Best Pal Stakes.

Upon his move to Pennsylvania, Brody's Cause ranked fourth in progeny earnings in the state in 2022, with more than $2.4 million, and has current lifetime earnings of more than $5 million, accrued in less than three years.

Winner of Keeneland's Claiborne Breeders' Futurity-G1 at 2 and the Blue Grass Stakes-G1 at 3, Brody's Cause retired with a record of three wins and a third in eight starts, for earnings of $1,168,138. He is out of stakes-placed Sweet Breanna, by the Mr. Prospector stallion Sahm; his second dam, graded winner Sweet Roberta, was second in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-G1.

Standing at Equistar Training & Breeding, Annville, PA; Stud fee: $3,500 LFSN.

CAPO KANE

The only son of champion Street Sense standing on the East Coast, Capo Kane has his first foals arriving this year after covering 28 mares in 2022.

Capo Kane entered stud after showing tremendous promise when hitting the board in each of his first four starts, two stakes, in a span of a little over three months, including a 6¼-length score in Aqueduct's Jerome Stakes on New Year's Day 2021. He followed with a third in Aqueduct's Withers Stakes-G3. A suspensory ligament injury forced his retirement that spring and he retired with a record of 5-2-1-1 for earnings of $147,500.

Capo Kane's pedigree meshes the top-two finishers of the 2007 Kentucky Derby-G1 – winner Street Sense and runner-up Hard Spun, sire of his dam Twirl Me.

He is the first foal for Darley-bred Twirl Me, a granddaughter of millionaire Tuzla (Fr). A Grade 1 winner of Del Mar's Ramona Handicap in 1999, Tuzla just missed winning that year's Breeders' Cup Mile-G1. Capo Kane has a pedigree that doubles up on the immensely successful Northern Dancer/Mr. Prospector cross, as it appears under both his sire and dam in the fourth-generation.

Standing at Bonner Hill Farms, Littlestown, PA; Stud fee: $2,500 LFSN, special consideration to multiple mares.

EASTWOOD

A son of Eclipse Award and Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 winner and prominent sire Speightstown, Eastwood had his first crop get to the races last year at 2, with six of his 10 named foals starting, three winning – all in maiden special weight company – and two others hitting the board. He ranked in the top 10 among the state's leading sires of juveniles. And there are larger crops to

come. He covered 23 mares last year and is already on pace to more than double that number in 2023.

The first foal out of the Deputy Minister mare Fifth Avenue Ball, the chestnut stallion was a six-figure sales weanling and, after winning his first two starts as a 3-year-old, sold for $800,000 - the second highest price - at Fasig-Tipton's summer sale. He would go on to win allowance races at Saratoga and Keeneland and finish second in the Grade 3 Los Angeles Stakes at Santa Anita before retiring with earnings of $265,545, and a record of four wins, two seconds and two thirds in 12 starts.

Standing at Blackstone Farm, Pine Grove, PA; Stud fee: $1,250 LFSN, second mare free for 2023 or 2024.

PAT ON THE BACK

The first foals of graded stakes-winning millionaire Pat On the Back arrived in 2022 to rave reviews. He covered more than 30 mares his first season and has nearly 20 foals reported.

An eight-time stakes winner, Pat On the Back (by Congrats) earned $1,144,545 and recorded nine wins in 30 starts, with four seconds and six thirds (all stakes). A stakes winner each year from 2 to 5, at distances from 6 furlongs to 1⅛ miles, his victories included Belmont Park's 1-mile Kelso Handicap-G2 in 1:33.97 and the Commentator Stakes in 1:33.43.

Pat On the Back is one of eight winners from 10 starters for his dam, the Awesome Again mare Accomplished, who also produced stakes-winning stakes producer Sarah Accomplished. His second dam I'm in Celebration (by Copelan) is a winning half-sister to Group 1 winner Little Baby Bear, Flamingo Stakes-G3 winner First American, and stakes winner Dubai Dust, and is the dam of 10 winners, including stakes winners and graded stakes-placed Nice to Know and Cheers and Tears.

Standing at Bonner Hill Farms, Littlestown, PA; Stud fee: $3,500 LFSN, special consideration to approved mares.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The speedy miler ranked sixth in the state in 2022 by progeny earnings and got his first $1 million season with only three crops to race. The son of War Front from the legendary family of champion What a Treat and leading sire Be My Guest has sired 66 percent winners from starters, led by his stakes-winning son Like a Saltshaker from his first crop. His runners have average earnings of $46,058.

His 2022 juveniles included Miss Blue Tye Dye Stakes-placed Ice, and Dontlookbackatall, a $150,000 Ocala 2-year-old sales filly who broke her maiden first-time out at Saratoga out of the barn of Christophe Clement.

Peace and Justice blazed over the turf during his career, winning one-mile allowances at Santa Anita in 1:32.36 and 1:33.27. He also won at a mile over Belmont Park's turf.

Peace and Justice is out of the Smart Strike mare Strike the Sky, dam of seven winners from as many foals, including graded stakes-winning $513,824-earner Hudson Steele.

Standing at Blackstone Farm, Pine Grove, PA; Stud fee: $5,000 LFSN.

SMARTY JONES

The Pennsylvania great is standing his 19th stud season as the state's leading active sire lifetime with nearly 80 stakes horses and more than $43 million in career progeny earnings. Runners in 2022 included multiple stakes-placed juvenile Dawgmentality, who hit the board in four of his five starts.

An international champion sire, Smarty Jones is represented by 37 stakes winners lifetime, 13 graded/group winners, such as millionaire and four-time Singapore champion Better Life, Japanese millionaires Keiai Gerbera and Noble Jewelry, and Grade 1-winning sprinter Centralinteligence.

The 2004 Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner is the only classic winner at stud in the region, and he remains the richest, with career earnings of $7,613,155 (25th all-time in North America).

Standing at Equistar Training & Breeding, Annville, PA; Stud fee: $3,500 LFSN.

UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN

Coming off the best season of his career, Uptowncharlybrown had six stakes performers and progeny earnings of $1,680,651 in 2022. His daughter Oxana won or placed in six consecutive stakes, and he ranked as Pennsylvania's top sire of 2-year-olds, with four stakes horses and juvenile progeny earnings nearly double that of the second-ranked stallion.

Uptowncharlybrown has been putting up impressive numbers from the start. In his first three small crops to race, 82 percent of his foals started, and three out of four were winners. His progeny include $726,593-earner Wait for It, who added to his stakes tally in 2022; graded stakes winner Dixie Serenade; and stakes-winning brothers Midtowncharlybrown and Midnightcharly.

A stakes winner and multiple graded stakes-placed at 3, Uptowncharlybrown (by Limehouse) proved precocious when breaking his maiden first out at 2, and showed he could stretch out when only 3 lengths behind winner Drosselmeyer in the Belmont Stakes-G1.

Standing at WynOaks Farm LLC, Delta, PA; Stud fee: $3,250 LFSN.

WARRIOR'S REWARD

The first Pennsylvania-sired crop for Warrior's Reward made its debut in 2022 and delivered. He tied for most juvenile winners by a Pennsylvania sire with six and was represented by stakes-placed filly Warrior's Ransom.

The Grade 1-winning son of Medaglia d'Oro had nine stakes performers overall for the year, including winner Stowe Angel and Grade 3 Dwyer-placed Fluid Situation, and was the fourth-leading active sire in the state with more than $2 million, pushing his lifetime figures just shy of $30 million. As a broodmare sire he was represented by six stakes winners in 2022, including Champagne-G1 winner Blazing Sevens.

Warrior's Reward was the fastest 3-year-old colt in his year, recording a 113 Beyer and getting 7 furlongs at Churchill Downs in 1:21.60 while defeating Munnings. At 4 he captured the Grade 1 Carter, getting 7 furlongs in 1:21.62.

He is from the family of Canadian Horse of the Year Catch a Glimpse, English champion Forest Flower, English classic-winning millionaire Night of Thunder, and Grade 1-winning millionaire High Yield.

Standing at WynOaks Farm LLC, Delta, PA; Stud fee: Private contract.

WEIGELIA

Since his first runners came to the races in 2012, Weigelia has put together impressive numbers from modest-sized crops. He has total progeny earnings of more than $14.6 million . . . average earnings per runner of $89,939 . . . 84 percent starters from foals. . . is the sire of $717,960-earner Beren, $715,038-earner Smooth B and $674,486-earner Storm Advisory . . . at least half of his stakes performers hit the

board at 2. . . and he ranked second among active Pennsylvania sires by progeny earnings in 2022 (with $2.4 million).

With four stakes winners in 2022, the most for any stallion with a Pennsylvania-sired crop, Weigelia's top runners included Beren, who added to his lofty stakes win total when capturing the Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash and Jump Start (stakes 6 and 7). His juvenile son Ninetyprcentmaddie was undefeated in his first three starts, including the Whistle Pig Stakes. In 2023 he is already the sire of stakes winners Disco Ebo and Ninetyprcentmaddie.

Weigelia (by Safely's Mark) was a prolific sprinter, winning or placing in 20 stakes in 48 starts, including the Grade 3 Carry Back and Grade 3 Kenny Noe, and earning $1,007,708.

Standing at WynOaks Farm LLC, Delta, PA; Stud fee: Private contract.

WELL SPELLED

Every Well Spelled 2-year-old that started in 2022 won. His four juveniles earned an average of $29,729, the second-highest average for any Pennsylvania 2-year-old sire in 2022.

In 2022, 16 of Well Spelled's 17 starters were winners (94 percent). Lifetime, his runners include stakes winners Hockey Puck and Well Graced, and Penn National's 2019 Horse of the Year Fish to Fry.

A graded stakes-winning sprinter, Well Spelled is by Spellbinder out of the winning Well Decorated mare Well, and half-brother to multiple graded stakes-winning millionaire Kobe's Back.

Standing at Mountain Springs Farm, Palmyra, PA; Stud fee: $1,500 LFSN, special consideration to approved mares.

WICKED STRONG

Pennsylvania's leading sire of 2022 with progeny earnings of nearly $3.6 million, he also topped the list by number of winners (82) from four crops to race. Nine of his offspring were stakes performers in 2022, led by stakes winner/graded stakes-placed Jilted Bride and Peruvian Group 2 winner Wicked Crane.

The sire of 20 stakes horses lifetime and the earners of more than $11 million, Wicked Strong was a top-10 freshman sire nationally in 2019 and ranked second by number of winners that year with 26, one less than American Pharoah, Constitution and Tapiture. His next crop had Remsen Stakes-G2 winner Brooklyn Strong.

One of the top runners of his generation, Wicked Strong won the $1 million Wood Memorial-G1 in stakes-record time and Saratoga's Jim Dandy-G2 over Belmont Stakes-G1 winner Tonalist. He earned $1,994,460 in 19 starts.

Wicked Strong's pedigree has strong classic lines as a son of Kentucky Derby-G1 and Preakness Stakes-G1-placed Hard Spun out of winning Moyne Abbey, by Kentucky Derby/Preakness winner Charismatic (by Preakness winner Summer Squall).

Wicked Strong's first Pennsylvania-sired crop are now yearlings.

Standing at Pin Oak Lane Farm, New Freedom, PA; Stud fee: $3,500 LFSN; $3,000 breeding two mares, $2,500 breeding three or more mares to any Pin Oak Lane stallions.

WINCHILL

Sire of undefeated 2-year-old and Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes winner Winning Time, Winchill led the state's 2-year-old sires by average earnings in 2022.

He also led the general active sires list by average earnings last year – his 10 runners earning a total of $405,521. His son You Must Chill, a member of his first crop in 2016, was his leading earner in 2022 and added to his stakes total when hitting the board in two stakes.

A stakes winner of $288,294, Winchill entered stud in Pennsylvania in 2015. From limited opportunity, the son of Tapit has 38 foals in four crops, 20 to race, 12 winners lifetime – with average earnings of $63,036.

Standing at Timber Ridge Farm, Felton, PA; Stud fee: $3,000 LFSN, special consideration to PA foaling mares.

A few words from the Executive Secretary

Congratulations to Weigelia for topping the leading stallion list for PA stallion awards for the first time in 2022! The late Jump Start held this title each year from 2015 through 2021. Weigelia topped the list with $186,200.86 in stallion awards earned across 312 races. In addition, he led the charge with four individual stakes winners (Beren, Smooth B, Disco Ebo, and Ninetyprcentmaddie) in 2022. Weigelia stands at WynOaks Farm in Delta, Pa.

The 2022 Iroquois Award Winners will be recognized at our Annual Banquet on May 12 at The Inn at Mendenhall in Chadds Ford. Invitations will be sent by email shortly.

The PA-Bred PA-Sired 2yo Stallion Series is expanding this year and will be run in three legs, SIX STAKES, at 5½ furlongs for $100,000, 6½ furlongs for $150,000, and a mile and 70 yards for $200,000. Each leg will consist of a 2yo race and a 2yo filly race. Don't forget about the $50,000 trainer bonus for the top three point-earning horses. Nominations for the 2023 series for 2yos, if not already nominated, are $1,000 for those purchased at a public or private sale by June 30. You can go to pabred.com under 'Horses Nominated' to see if your horse is on the list. If not, go to 'Forms' and print the nomination form.

Broodmares who were not in the state by Dec. 1, 2022, or within 14 days of a public sale (within 60 days of a sale outside the U.S.) must be bred back to a PA-Sire. We ask that you submit all broodmare domicile forms online.

As usual, please contact our office with any questions you may have. Pennsylvania is the only place to Breed & Race! Have a great 2023 and Go PA!!!

2023 PENNSYLVANIA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

Monday, April 24	**$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP**	3 & up, 7 furlongs
	$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 7 furlongs
Friday, June 2	**$100,000 DANZIG STAKES**	3YO, 6 furlongs
	$100,000 NEW START STAKES	3YO fillies, 6 furlongs
	$100,000 LYPHARD STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 1 1/16 miles, turf
	$100,000 WITH ANTICIPATION STAKES	3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf
Monday, June 26	**$100,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES**	3YO, 1 1/16 miles, turf
	$100,000 POWER BY FAR STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 5 furlongs, turf
Monday, July 17	**$100,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES**	3YO fillies, 6½ furlongs
Monday, July 24	**$100,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES**	3 & up, f&m,1 mile 70 yards
Tuesday, July 25	**$100,000 HARD SPUN STAKES**	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards
Monday, August 21	**$100,000 BANJO PICKER SPRINT STAKES**	3 & up, 6 furlongs
	$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP	3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf
	$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 1 1/16 miles, turf
	$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards
	$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEM. STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 6 furlongs
	2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS STAKES:	
	$100,000 WHISTLE PIG STAKES	2YO, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 5½ furlongs
	$100,000 MISS BLUE TYE DYE STAKES	2YO fillies, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 5½ furlongs
Saturday, Sept. 23	**$100,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP**	3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf
	$100,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES	3 & up, f&m, 1 mile 70 yards
	2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS:	
	$150,000 PRINCE LUCKY STAKES	2YO PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6½ furlongs
	$150,000 IMPLY STAKES	2YO fillies, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6½ furlongs
Monday, Oct. 16	**$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES**	2YO fillies, 6 furlongs
Tuesday, Oct. 17	**$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES**	2YO, 6 furlongs
Tuesday, Oct. 24	**3 & up PA-SIRED PA-BRED STAKES:**	
	$100,000 JUMP START STAKES	3 & up, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 7 furlongs
Wednesday, Nov. 22	**$200,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES**	2YO fillies, 6 furlongs
Tuesday, Nov. 28	**$200,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES**	2YO, 7 furlongs
Wednesday, Dec. 27	**2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS:**	
	$200,000 WAIT FOR IT STAKES	2YO, 1 mile 70 yards
	$200,000 MISS BEHAVIOUR STAKES	2YO fillies, 1 mile 70 yards

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association • www.pabred.com
701 East Baltimore Pike, Suite E, Kennett Square, PA 19348 • 610.444.1050

#PABred on social media

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

April 2023

The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and Parx Racing would like to thank the men and women of our racing community for a great 2022. Every year, Parx horsemen succeed not only locally, but around the country. Parx horsemen were well-represented in many high-level stakes throughout the calendar year of 2022.

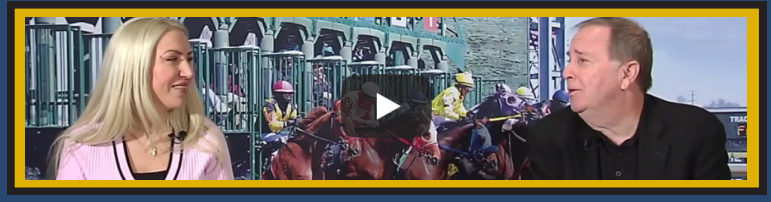
The list of award finalists and winners at Parx for the year of 2022 was exceptional, a great reflection of the year we had, that culminated in a record-break Pennsylvania Derby Day here on the 24th of September. Taiba having won the Grade 1 Pennsylvania Derby and Society capturing the Grade 1 Cotillion. Parx horsemen represented eight wins on the day, six of them being in stakes company.

Jeff Matty, Jr.
PTHA Executive Director

With March comes March Madness, which takes a backseat to only Parx Madness! We hosted 7 stakes and mutilple starter allowance races named after local colleages. Butch Reid's Ninetyprcentmaddie drew off and won the City of Brotherly Love Stakes by 9&3/4 going a mile and seventy. Twisted Ride captured the Fishtown Stakes for trainer Michael Moore, ridden by Andy Hernandez. Disco Ebo romped in the Penn's Landing, while Forewarned got up in the final strides in the Washington Crossing for Uriah St. Lewis. Our handle surpassed $10M for the week, we look forward to building on this success and carrying it throughout the remainder of 2023. Pennsylvania Derby Day will be on September 23, please mark your calendars as we look forward to seeing everyone there!

Best of luck in 2023 both on & off the track!

- The PTHA



Join hosts Dick Jerardi and Dani Gibson for the latest in Thoroughbred news, behind the scenes access, and more, every Saturday at 10 am on PHL-17!

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association
P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020
Office: 215-638-2012 Fax: 215-638-2919
www.patha.org Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4 pm.

Let's Go Racing parx

2022 HORSEMEN'S AWARDS WINNERS

Honoring the Best of Parx Racing of 2022

2-Year-Old Male: WINNING TIME (2 2-0-0 | $162,000)
Owner: Pewter Stable | Trainer: Kathleen DeMasi | Breeder: Pewter Stable

2-Year-Old Filly: FLOR DE SOMBRA (3 2-0-1 | $98,000)
Owner: Joseph Imbesi | Trainer: Guadalupe Preciado | Breeder: Joseph Imbesi

• •

3-Year-Old Male: SCARAMOUCHE (6 6-0-0 | $353,400)
Owner: Nicholas Cammarano, Jr. | Trainer:Guadalupe Preciado | Breeder: Stoneway Farm

3-Year-Old Filly: MORNING MATCHA
Owner: Gary Barber, LC Racing LLC & Cash Is King LLC | Trainer: Robert Reid, Jr. | Breeder: Crane Thoroughbreds Services LLC.

• •

Older Male: FORTHELUVOFBOURBON (8 6-1-0 | $306,680)
Owner: Smart Angle LLP | Trainer: Michael Pino | Breeder: Hidden Acres 4-D Farm

Older Female: LOVE IN THE AIR (3 2-0-1 | $189,200)
Owner: Main Line Racing | Trainer: John Servis | Breeder: Blackstone Farm, LLC

• •

Claiming Horse of the Year: EXIT RIGHT (10 7-1-1 | $161,800)
Owner: Morris Kernan, Jr., Yo Berbs Racing & Jagger Inc. | Trainer: Jamie Ness | Breeder: Chester & Mary Broman

Outstanding Claim: EXIT RIGHT (10 7-1-1 | $161,800)
Owner: Morris Kernan, Jr., Yo Berbs Racing & Jagger Inc. | Trainer: Jamie Ness | Breeder: Chester & Mary Broman

• •

Leading Owner: MORRIS KERNAN, JR., YO BERBS AND JAGGER INC.
(Starts: 165 48-36-21 | Win 29% | $1,404,442)

Leading Trainer: JAMIE NESS
(Starts: 588 166-123-90 | Win 28% | $5,012,630)

Leading "B" Trainer: MIGUEL A. RODRIGUEZ
(Starts: 127 29-28-20 | Win 23% | $803,857)

Leading Jockey: RUBEN SILVERA
(Starts: 819 162-146-133 | Win 20% | $5,138,396)

Apprentice Jockey : ANDY HERNANDEZ
(Starts: 691 104-101-100 | Win 15% | $3,244,012)

• •

Winningest Horse: EXIT RIGHT
(Starts: 10 7-1-1 | Win 70% | $161,80)

• •

Horse of the Year: FORTHELUVOFBOURBON
(Bourbon Courage- Nosubstituteforluv, by Not For Love)

• •

Owner: SMART ANGLE LLP
Trainer: MICHAEL PINO
Breeder: HIDDEN ACRES 4-D FARM
(8 6-1-0 | $306,680)

(Statistics are starts at Parx)

parxracing®

PTHA

SCTOBA

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

Racing Across the Nation

Between Jan. 21 and Feb. 19, five horses who went through the breaking and training process in South Carolina won stakes in Florida, Maryland and New York.

On Jan. 21, Award Wanted, a graduate of Marcus and Crystal Ryan's Mason Springs breaking program outside of Aiken, proved much the best in the Geisha Stakes at Laurel Park. Third after the opening half-mile, Award Wanted came up along the inside rail, took command in the stretch and won by 5½ lengths in the 1-mile stakes. The 6-year-old mare has nine wins, eight seconds and five thirds in 32 career starts and earnings of $370,450.

Art Collector also was much the best in the $3 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational-G1 at Gulfstream Park Jan. 28. Bruce Lunsford's homebred 6-year-old raced in third down the backside of the 1⅛-mile race. He took the lead in upper stretch and drew away to a 4½-length victory facing the best older horses in the country. A graduate of the Travis Durr Training Center in St. Matthews, Art Collector has won eight stakes, five graded, while piling up 11 wins and $4,012,490.

Swayin to and Fro won her third stakes in her last four starts capturing the Barbara Fritchie-G3 at Laurel Park Feb. 18. She took the lead after a half-mile and, in a determined effort, held off the others to cross the finish line a half-length in front. This 4-year-old filly was bred in South Carolina by Franklin "Goree" Smith and received her early training at Smith's Elloree Training Center. She has nine wins, a second and two thirds in 16 lifetime starts accumulating $476,537 in earnings.

Nimitz Class won his second stakes in a row in the John B. Campbell at Laurel Park Feb. 18. He won the Robert T. Manfuso Stakes also at Laurel Park Dec. 30. Nimitz Class broke sharply and battled for the lead for the first three-quarters of a mile before drawing clear in the stretch, crossing the finish line 4½ lengths in front. The 4-year-old colt received his early training at Randy and Kala Rentz's Rentz FarmTraining Center in Erhardt. He has won seven of his 13 starts.

Another Rentz Farm Training Center graduate, Cairo Sugar, was best in her first stakes appearance. Last out of the gate, Cairo Sugar quickly advanced to the lead and in a relentless effort, would not be denied winning the Maddie May at Aqueduct Feb. 19 by 1¼ lengths.

Kip Elser's Kirkwood Stables shifts focus

Kip Elser, owner of Kirkwood Stables, has been a prominent consignor at 2-year-old sales around the world since the 1970s. He is now shifting his focus toward public and private bloodstock purchases, evaluations and racing stable management. He will consult and advise on breeding prospects, racing prospects and the purchase of horses of racing age.

Under the Kirkwood Stables banner, Elser has produced classic winners, Breeders' Cup champions and Eclipse Award recipients. Elser has always thought outside the box. At the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream 2-year-old sales, he has galloped the horses in his consignment during the training shows rather than breeze them.

Elser has been a longtime vice president of the South Carolina Owners and Breeders Association and has been serving as a member of the South Carolina Equine Industry Committee.

Mullins named to board of NSA

Frank Mullins, President of the Aiken Steeplechase Association, has recently been named to the board of directors for the National Steeplechase Association. The NSA board oversees the regulation of steeplechase racing in this country and is in charge of the business conducted by the organization.

Along with his son-in-law, Jordan Wycoff, Mullins campaigns Topic Changer, the top 3-year-old steeplechaser in 2022. Topic Changer won the Holiday Cup at the Aiken Fall Steeplechase and the Alston Cup Stakes at the Steeplechase of Charleston.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Dixie Drawl	Elloree Training Ctr.	01/20/23	Charles Town	Allowance
Freedom Road	Kirkwood Stables	01/21/23	Tampa Bay	Allowance
AWARD WANTED	Aiken - Mason Springs	01/21/23	Laurel Park	Geisha S
Who Hoo That's Me	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	01/21/23	Aqueduct	Allowance
No Confession	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/23/23	Parx	Allowance
Thatstonyssister	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/24/23	Parx	Maiden Special Weight
Dr. Kraft	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/26/23	Aqueduct	Maiden Special Weight
Jumpmaster	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/26/23	Penn National	Allowance
Read On	Elloree Training Ctr.	01/27/23	Gulfstream Park	Allowance
Irish Unity	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	01/28/23	Mahoning Valley	Allowance
ART COLLECTOR	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	01/28/23	Gulfstream Park	Pegasus World Cup-G1
Wicked Finn	Kirkwood Stables	01/29/23	Gulfstream Park	Starter Allowance
Sue Ellen Misshkin	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	01/29/23	Oaklawn Park	Allowance
Feeling Woozy	Elloree Training Ctr.	01/29/23	Laurel Park	Allowance
Far Mo Power	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/30/23	Parx	Allowance
Beren	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	01/31/23	Parx	Allowance
Flocked	McCutchen Training Ctr.	02/01/23	Mahoning Valley	Maiden Special Weight
Sunshine Linda	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/01/23	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Hyperbolist	Elloree Training Ctr.	02/02/23	Delta Downs	Allowance
Mike J	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/04/23	Fair Grounds	Starter Allowance
Torch of Truth	Custom Care - D. Freyer	02/05/23	Laurel Park	Allowance
Maestria	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/05/23	Fair Grounds	Allowance
Writer's Regret	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/05/23	Aqueduct	Allowance
Princess Theorem	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/08/23	Gulfstream Park	Allowance
Stone Creator	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/09/23	Aqueduct	Allowance
Sultry Lass	Elloree Training Ctr.	02/09/23	Fair Grounds	Maiden Special Weight
Asluckwouldhaveit	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/09/23	Penn National	Starter Allowance
Social Success	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/10/23	Penn National	Allowance
High Strike	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/10/23	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Condensation	McCutchen Training Ctr.	02/11/23	Oaklawn Park	Allowance
Lenten Rose	Elloree Training Ctr.	02/11/23	Tampa Bay	Allowance
Professor Kool	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/15/23	Parx	Maiden Special Weight
Amazon Queen	Travis Durr Training Ctr.	02/16/23	Turfway Park	Allowance
Pout	McCutchen Training Ctr.	02/17/23	Oaklawn Park	Maiden Special Weight
SWAYIN TO AND FRO	Elloree Training Ctr.	02/18/23	Laurel Park	Barbara Fritchie S-G3
NIMITZ CLASS	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/18/23	Laurel Park	John B. Campbell S
Kitchen Fire	Custom Care - D. Freyer	02/19/23	Tampa Bay	Allowance
CAIRO SUGAR	Rentz Farm Training Ctr.	02/19/23	Aqueduct	Maddie May S
Delightof the Nile	Elloree Training Center	02/19/23	Sam Houston Race Track	Maiden Special Weight

VIRGINIA

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SECRETARIAT'S TRIPLE CROWN CAMPAIGN TO FEATURE A STATUE UNVEILING APRIL 1 IN ASHLAND, VA

Secretariat, in the form of a 3,500-pound bronze monument, is racing to his home state of Virginia to kick off the national 50th anniversary celebration of his immortal Triple Crown of 1973.

The "Secretariat Racing Into History" monument by renowned equine artist Jocelyn Russell is traveling over 1,000 miles from a foundry in Oklahoma to the historic town of Ashland — just a 45-minute drive from Colonial Downs — where it will be unveiled as the centerpiece of an anniversary celebration on April 1. At 21 feet long and 11.5 feet tall, it is the largest monument of Secretariat in existence, dramatically illustrating the Virginia-born champion's larger-than-life presence as an equine athlete and American icon.

Ashland has the honor of being the first venue of a multi-state 50th anniversary tour due to longstanding ties to the Chenery family. Secretariat's breeder Christopher Chenery grew up and attended college there and founded nearby Meadow Stable where Secretariat was born in 1970. Penny Chenery took over the farm for her father and managed Secretariat's spectacular career. Her daughter, author/speaker Kate Chenery Tweedy, lives in Ashland and is carrying on the Secretariat legacy. She is chairing a committee to raise $550,000 to hopefully place the Secretariat monument permanently in Ashland at the Randolph Macon College campus.

Author Wayne Dementi and Kate Chenery Tweedy, pictured at the Secretariat statue announcement at Randolph Macon College in Ashland.

"Secretariat's story truly would come full circle if the monument is placed in Ashland," said Ms. Tweedy. "How fitting it would be to see this happen during this milestone Triple Crown anniversary."

The monument will stay in Ashland until late April at which time Ms. Russell and the monument will continue on an anniversary tour to other tracks including Triple Crown leg appearances and other stops to be announced soon at secretariat.com.

KEY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS FILLED AT COLONIAL DOWNS

In early March, Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI) announced racing leadership appointments at Colonial Downs in advance of the 2023 thoroughbred racing season. The meet is slated to run from July 13 - September 9 on a Thursday thru Saturday basis at 1:30 PM. The last three race seasons in New Kent featured Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday race dates. CDI took over ownership of Colonial in November, 2022.

Frank Hopf has been appointed Sr. Director of Racing Operations where he will oversee all racing operations including mutuels, track surfaces and racing office personnel. Hopf brings 13 years of career experience from Sam Houston Race Park where he served in a variety of leadership roles, most recently as Assistant General Manager. In his new role at Colonial, Hopf will manage the relationship with valued horsemen's group partners in Virginia, including the Virginia Equine Alliance (VEA) and the Virginia HBPA.

Stanley Shina has been promoted to Racing Secretary after previously serving as Assistant Racing Secretary for the Racetrack. Shina has been a staple in the racing industry having served over 40 years in a number of roles as well as 10 years as a trainer. In addition to his promotion at Colonial Downs, Shina will still serve as the Assistant Racing Secretary at Tampa Bay Downs, a position he has filled for 19 years.

"We are extremely excited to announce these qualified appointments as the company focuses on building racing in Virginia and taking it to new heights," said

Gary Palmisano, Executive Director of Racing for CDI. "Frank's vast experience at Sam Houston make him well-suited for this position at Colonial Downs and we are thrilled to welcome him to the CDI team. Stanley brings a wealth of racing industry knowledge and is certain to thrive in his new role."

CDI previously announced that Colonial Downs' 2023 meet will include three internationally-renowned Thoroughbred stakes races for the first time: the Arlington Million, Beverly D. Stakes and Secretariat Stakes. The trio will all be contested on Saturday August 12 which will arguably be the biggest race day in Colonial's history. The 20th running of the New Kent County Virginia Derby will close out the 9-week meet on September 9. Condition books wiil be available soon at colonialdowns.com.

STEEPLECHASE RACING USHERS IN VIRGINIA'S 2023 LIVE RACING SEASON

The Virginia Point-to-Point (PTP) season kicked off in fine fashion March 4 with the Rappahannock Hunt's 7-race program at The Hill in Boston, VA. Three Junior Pony events kicked off festivities and were followed by a pair of timber and flat races, each of which offered purses of between $1,000 - $2,500. The spring PTP season continues through April 30.

The Old Dominion Hounds Point-to-Point (PTP), scheduled for Easter Saturday on April 8 in Ben Venue, Virginia, will feature three NSA sanctioned races for the first time ever with combined purse money of $65,000. That event will be streamed live at nationalsteeplechase.com.

The Blue Ridge Hunt PTP in Berryville is next on April 16 followed by the Loudoun Hunt PTP April 23 in Leesburg and the Middleburg Hunt PTP April 30. Entries and results can be found at centralentryoffice.com. The VEA is again offering a starter rewards bonus program for all Virginia-owned and Virginia-trained horses that participate in the spring PTP events.

A trio of spring NSA sanctioned meets will also be held in the Commonwealth on consecutive weekends. The Middleburg Spring races are scheduled for April 22 followed by Foxfield Races in Charlottesville April 29 and the Virginia Gold Cup in The Plains May 6. All attract large crowds and details/ticketing is available on the NSA website.

Sculptor Jocelyn Russell provided details of the life-sized Secretariat statue at the announcement ceremonies.

VIRGINIA THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Virginia Thoroughbred Association (VTA) Executive Director Debbie Easter welcomed 2023 Officers and Board members — both new ones and those whose terms had expired — at the most recent VTA Board meeting held at the Warrenton office.

The '23 slate of Officers includes President Amy Moore of South Gate Farm in Millwood (breeder of early Kentucky Derby favorite Forte), Vice-President Wayne VanSant of Atoka Forge in Middleburg, Treasurer Turner Kobayashi of Audley Farm Equine in Berryville and Past-President Susan Cooney — who recently collected her 300th training win — of Cooney Racing Stables in Delaplane.

Directors represent three different regions in the Commonwealth. New Board members in the Capitol region include Donna Dennehy (Ashland) and Alan Hutchinson (Glen Allen) who join returning members Christine Applegate (Onancock) and Chris Kuhn (Providence Forge). New Board members in the Potomac Region include Wayne Chatfield-Taylor (Front Royal), Diana McClure (Berryville) and Laura Smith (Purcellville), who join returning members Janet de Teran (Boyce), Pat Ramey (Upperville) and Larry Johnson (Bluemont). The Blue Ridge district is represented by newcomers Sara Miller (Charlottesville) and Diane Manning (Keswick) who join returnees Brooke Royster (Gordonsville) and Pat Sheperd (Culpepper).

Ms. Easter thanked outgoing Directors A. Ferris Allen III, James Arrison, Dr. Al Griffin Jr., Ellen Kill Kelly and Robin Mellen along with Past-President Gillian Gordon-Moore for their service and dedication to the VTA.

Trainer Susan Cooney, shown celebrating a win at Colonial Downs last summer with jockey Victor Carrasco, recently picked up her 300th career training win.

Horses compete in the Rappahannock Hunt's Point-to-Point Maiden Flat on March 4 (Douglas Lees photo).

Virginia Thoroughbred Association

President: Amy Moore Vice-President: Wayne VanSant Treasurer: Turner Kobayashi Past President: Susan Cooney
Directors: Christina Applegate, Donna Dennehy, Janet de Teran, Alan Hutchinson, Larry Johnson, Chris Kuhn, Diane Manning, Diana McClure, Sara Miller, Patricia Ramey, Brooke Royster, Pat Shepherd, Laura Smith, Wayne Chatfield Taylor

Visit www.vabred.org–the best source for Virginia breeding and racing news
For more information on the Virginia Breeders Fund or Virginia Stakes Program, please contact the VTA.
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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter April 2023

For the Love of the Game

By Jeff Gilleas

As the light of day slowly begins to linger, edging out dreary winter months, it reveals the breeding/foaling season swinging into full capacity.

Though every year is a testament to many comparable circumstances, it's also a period inundated with contrasting outcomes and countless vigilant nights.

Commercial breeding farms advertise old and new stallions, while mares are closely monitored to see if they are in "heat" or estrus.

In a sport that categorizes races by age, it is advantageous to get the jump on your competition.

Horse owners are an obsessive group by nature, and in the rolling hills of West Virginia bets made today can impact the bottom line for years to come.

To gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the industry, lets take a peek at some of the farm's individuals and their respective stallions.

BEAU RIDGE FARM

Located in Kearneysville, Beau Ridge stands multiple stallions with Fiber Sonde garnering the greatest headlines.

They provide mare foaling with monitors, night watchman and security systems.

Beau Ridge has a three-eighths-mile training track, four-stall starting gate and is equipped to handle turnouts.

With the recent passing of John McKee, his wife and partner of over 45 years Cyndy will remain as the proprietor of Beau Ridge, and continue its culture of excellence in West Virginia Thoroughbred racing and breeding.

BLUE SPRUCE FARM

Amanda Moro may have roots near London, England, and dipped her toes in the Thames River while growing up, but she now calls Jefferson County home, and the Shenandoah her nearest water source.

Moro believes in the word team and has surrounded herself with some of the same loyal employees for more than 20 years.

She is also proud of her reputation in the Eastern Panhandle as proprietor of one of the largest foaling operations in the state.

BYBEE ROAD FARM

The legacy of dearly departed Dennis Bybee was his good business procedures, acquisition of reasonable stallions and the accessible dispersal of offspring to fellow horsemen.

Bybee was an intellectual who realized in this business you can't afford to get too high on a horse or give up on them too soon.

FLAMINGO RUN RACING

Karen Freer stands the sire Real Estate at her farm, where she offers a complete array of services for the Thoroughbred, and possesses more than 25 years of experience with a reputation for hard work and honesty.

Karen's stallion is a stakes-winning grandson of sire of sires Storm Cat.

Interested parties should call ahead before visiting, as Freer might be attending a West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association Board meeting, on the road with truck and trailer or ponying the card at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races.

MARE'S NEST FARM

Dr. Maurice Casey says his broodmare band consists of approximately 12 Thoroughbred mares, all hand-picked for quality.

Most are stakes producers or half-sisters to stakes winners.

The goal at Mare's Nest is to produce Kentucky quality in West Virginia.

Some of the farm's successful candidates are stakes horses Brigader, Cedar Run's Emblem, Fool Proof and Tequila and Run.

Mare's Nest presently stands Stormy's Majesty, a son of Stormy Atlantic out of Raffie's Dream.

O'SULLIVAN FARMS

One of the crown jewels of local Thoroughbred racing and breeding, O'Sullivan Farms rests on historic limestone pastureland in the heart of Jefferson County.

Founded in 1939, the farm specializes in boarding, breeding, foaling, breaking, training, racing partnerships and stallion syndication.

The teaming of O'Sullivan Farms and trainer Javier Contreras is paying handsome dividends at the track, while stallions Aldrin, Capo Bastone, Golden Years, Last Print and Limehouse continue at the forefront of the commercial enterprise.

STEHR FARM

Stehr Farm is the epitome of a family owned and run business.

If you plan a visit to the farm, no need to call ahead.

Vicki, Joe or Tab will greet you with a smile, however blue jeans and work boots are a necessity.

You see, this is a working farm, where everyone does their fair share.

Multiple stallions are listed on the Facebook page.

TAYLOR MOUNTAIN FARM

One of the most picturesque spots in the stallion directory, Taylor Mountain Farm was founded by the late Eleanor and James W. Casey.

Their significant contribution to the West Virginia Breeding program is courtesy of such sires Weshaam, My Boy Adam, Luftikus, Windsor Castle, Denis of Cork and Juba.

◆

As you can see, diversity is the buzzword in West Virginia breeding sheds, and proof there is something for every budget, taste and opinion, while faith continues to shore up their resolute spirit.

For a more comprehensive overview of West Virginia farms and stallions contact Dawn Cook at the WVTBA office at (304) 728-6868.

SPRING STAKES SCHEDULE

After going through a brief interval of "load management" the following stakes for West Virginia-breds are marked on everyone's early spring calendar.

April 15—Original Gold. $75,000. F&M – 7 furlongs

April 22—Confucius Say. $75,000. 7 furlongs

April 29—Its Binn Too Long. $75,000. 3YOF. 4½ furlongs

May 13—Coin Collector. $75,000. 3YO. 4½ furlongs

NEWS AND NOTES

When I was a much younger man, the terms longitude and latitude were convenient points of geographical reference, especially when boating.

Now, they appear to help owner-trainer Jason DaCosta find suitable races for his talented West Virginia-bred, Free Sailin. The multiple stakes-winning son of Freedom Child out of Kela's Pride, by Kela, has earned just a shade under $200,000, while victorious in eight of 14 starts.

It appears Ohio and predominantly Mahoning Valley are home, but Charles Town Races is where he captured the lucrative Robert G. Leavitt and West Virginia Lottery Breeders Classic Stakes.

As a yearling, he was consigned by Bill Reightler, and purchased at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale for $20,000 by DaCosta.

The bay was bred by Susan Wantz, who continues as a force in the industry, and is best known as the owner of Dance to Bristol, winner of the Grade 1 Ballerina Stakes at Saratoga for trainer Ollie Figgins III.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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Chasing
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North? South? At Tryon's old Block House Racecourse, it was both

By Betsy Burke Parker

From before the time Cherokee natives warily eyed British settlers that appropriated the steeply rolling Blue Ridge foothills in the 1700s, the area around what eventually became Tryon, North Carolina has always been prime real estate. For the original occupants, the hills and creeks slicing them provided abundant hunting land and natural protection in a relatively mild clime. For colonists, the region represented a rich paradise, easily accessible from the bustling young cities on the Atlantic coast as railroads began to lace the fledgling nation.

Tryon's Green Creek course, in its first year of use in 2017.
©Tod Marks

When a 17-pound gold nugget was discovered in a creek a couple counties east of Polk County in 1799, more were drawn to the area, dragging with them traditions and pastimes like foxhunting and horse racing.

Informal point-to-points started in the 1830s when low country plantation owners flocked to the foothills late spring to early fall, attracted by the cooling elevation and open spaces of western North Carolina, and ported there on the new Cincinnati-to-Charleston railroad line.

Sportsmen and women from the midwest soon joined them, finding almost irresistible, informal race paths along the broad, cleared strips of land making way for the Spartanburg-to-Asheville railroad spur.

Part of the midwestern influx, college dropout and entrepreneur Carter Brown made his way to Tryon in 1917, adopting the sleepy southern town, its ample land and sporting traditions that suited his developing vision of an equestrian mecca.

Hear how a series of seemingly unrelated choices leads from the beginning of time to April's Tryon Block House Steeplechase, a tale peppered with intrigue.

The Block House Races

Race director of the 75th annual Tryon Block House Races, Toby Edwards recognizes he's a smaller part of a bigger picture, a sporting tradition of western North Carolina that reaches farther back than even the 1947 origins of the meet that ran for decades at the eponymous property near the village.

"I never got to ride at the original Block House," says Edwards, who retired from the saddle in 2001. "I look at these types of courses – more rolling, up and down, up and down – as 'riders' courses.' They make you think, they make you sit up and ride."

Edwards says the original Block House course was steeply pitched and tight, a half-mile track that put jumps on turns and hurdles on hills – including the one famously positioned on the North Carolina-South Carolina border.

The FENCE course, second home to the meet – 1987 to 2016, was a few miles northwest, slightly less steep but with a stout climb past the wire to the back straight.

The new Green Creek course – a mile and an eighth around and in use since 2017, Edwards calls a perfect mix.

"Personally, I would have loved to have ridden at Green Creek," says Edwards, who doubled at the April 21, 2001 FENCE meet just before he retired, partnering hurdle stake winner Brown Lad. "Now, we have a (newer) group of riders on the circuit, and most of them won't have ridden around (the Green Creek course) before.

"It'll be fun to see who figures it out, how to use the ups and downs and straights and turns to your advantage."

Nine miles west of Tryon near the Tryon International Equestrian Center, the right-handed Green Creek course is fully irrigated, managed and manicured by TIEC full-time agronomist Dan Fradley. Fradley also oversees golf courses, a combined driving field, jump derby fields and the extensive cross-country courses at the main facility a few miles north.

TIEC equestrian director Molly Oakman says, "the history and legacy of this steeplechase is so important to our community,

and it is an honor to continue the tradition that Tryon Riding and Hunt Club started generations ago.

"We extend a special thank you to Roger and Jennifer Smith for their vision for the Green Creek racecourse and their role in the preservation of equestrian sport."

The Smiths, she says, are the most recent in a long line of Tryon sportsmen and women who have carried the ball for jump racing since the first one ran for a tin cup at the old Harmon Field in town.

Carter Brown - the father of the Tryon Steeplechase

In the words of the late historian and former Block House race chairman Charles Ross, Carter Brown was "the man who put Tryon on the map as a horse center."

When Brown stepped off the train from Michigan in 1917, he didn't exactly envision the equestrian mecca Tryon eventually became, rather he was thinking of opening a business. By trade a hotelier, Brown had left the University of Illinois three months shy of graduation to buy Castle Rock Cottages in Castle Park, Michigan, which he developed into the tony Castle Park Inn.

He aspired to more.

An aunt who once visited Tryon had told him about an abandoned tuberculosis sanatorium perched on a hill overlooking the charming town. The space had been vacant for several years, and she told her enterprising young nephew she thought it could be converted into another pleasant rural inn.

Thus, Carter Brown headed to Tryon. He redeveloped the Pine Crest Inn into a handsome, low-slung hotel with cottages scattered fetchingly around the cool and shaded grounds, adding expansive stabling for visitors who'd bring foxhunters and point-to-pointers for the season.

Brown founded the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club in 1925 and organized the Tryon Hounds the following year. Brown rode in the fledgling Carolina Cup in Camden in the early 1930s and was inspired to host a jump race at Harmon Field in 1934.

He called it "The March Hare," run over timber and brush through what was then mostly fallow cornfields in a creek bottom near downtown.

A tin cup served as the prize.

The March Hare continued to the outbreak of World War II when racing was suspended.

After the war, racing returned in 1947 at the new Block House course a few miles west of Harmon Field, with Brown's supervision but with an added champion.

1980 Tryon Block House Races, over the Block House course. *©McCormick/NSA Archives*

Alfred Plamondon

Alfred Plamondon, wartime industrialist and founder of Indiana Steel Products that manufactured, among other things, industrial magnets, had visited Tryon in 1942. He'd stayed at the Pine Crest and struck up kinship and friendship with Carter Brown.

When Plamondon mentioned he'd like to have a hunt box in the area, Brown purchased the Block House for him and set about refurbishing what had fallen to shambles over the years.

His first step in reviving the Block House was to move the main building to higher ground several hundred yards to the west. A stone marker was placed at the original site, the actual state line and site where three county lines meet.

Plamondon planned to graze cattle on the property, and he imported a herd of black Angus from Lexington, Kentucky. He'd heard lamentations about the abandonment of the races once held at Harmon Field, so Plamondon suggested Brown to create a new course on his property.

Brown jumped at the chance, designing a half-mile oval, grading and contouring as much as possible and peppering the fields with brush and timber obstacles. He built a judges' platform on the roof of the house and called a press conference at the Pine Crest. Newspaper and radio reporters were invited from as far away as Asheville and Charlotte.

Johnson reported that Brown presented the sports and style writers with films and fact sheets about steeplechasing, a sumptuous lunch and an open bar. Unsurprisingly, the media became Brown's most ardent supporters. Spartanburg's WSPA Radio broadcast the entire race program, live, and Block House was up and running.

Most of the entries those first few years were local foxhunters, except, notably, Southern Pines trainer Mickey Walsh and Nashville shippers from the already-powerhouse stable of Mason Houghland and his son, jockey Calvin Houghland.

An emergency fund maintained by the old United Hunts Racing Association paid the purses the first couple years, but by 1949, Block House was a cornerstone of the Tryon spring social scene with race sponsors and a full card.

NSA stewards Frank "Whitey" Powers and Stephen Clark came to Tryon in 1949, giving the meet sanction in 1950.

The course was notably "tough," say riders who to this day recall the tricky, tight turns, steeply rolling terrain and stiff, packed brush hedges.

Brown had constructed one of the brush fences exactly on the North Carolina-South Carolina border, and it had the effect he'd hoped for: The well-dressed, impeccably mannered crowd would trade decorum for enthusiasm, going literally insane with raucous cheering as horses leaped from one state to another.

The meet was an enormous success, hugely popular with spectators and swiftly became a big part of the Tryon social scene.

75th Tryon Block House Races

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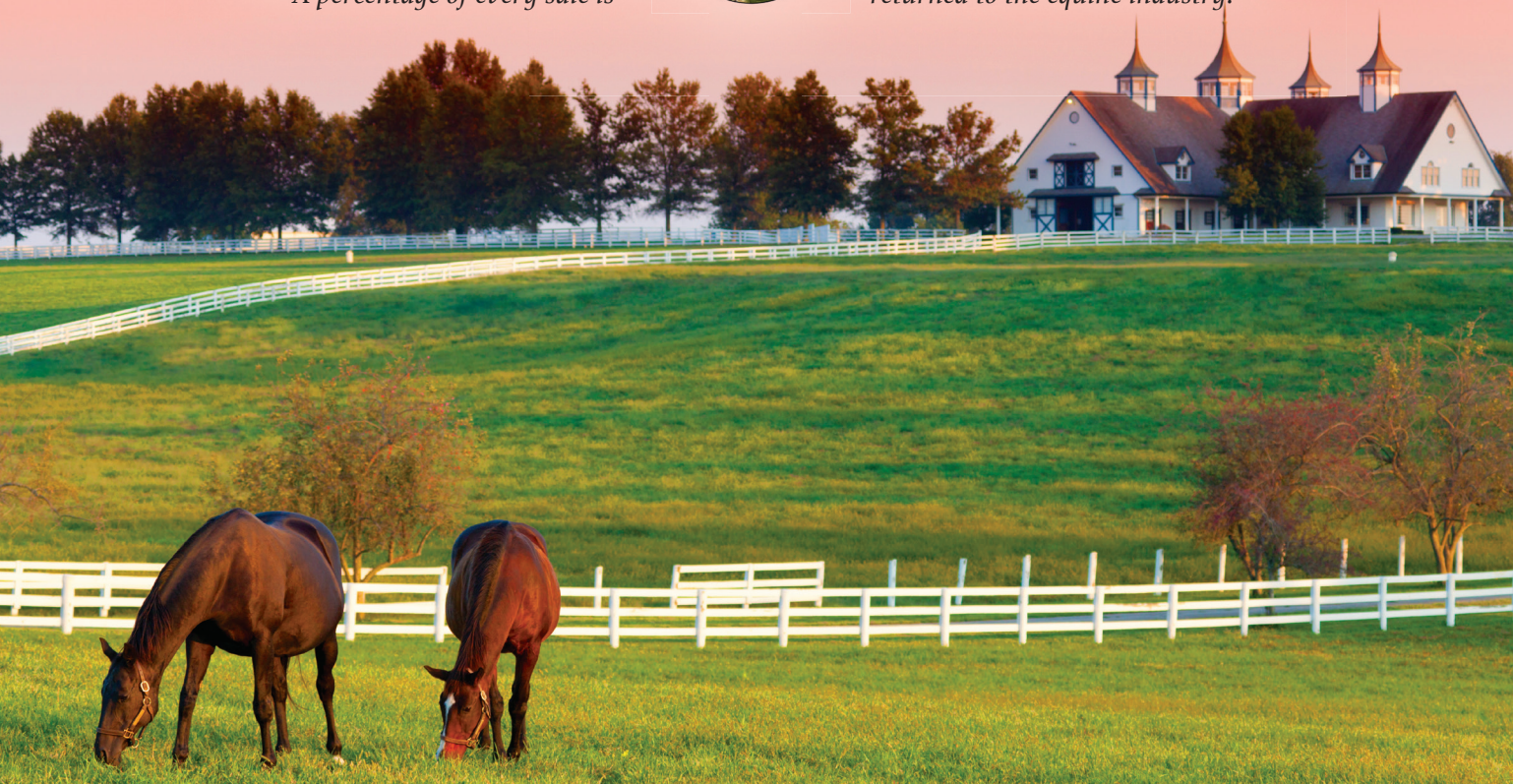

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West Virginia horseman McKee dies at 83

John McKee picked up the phone on one ring, maybe two.

"I'm not very busy at all, I'm in the hospital," he said like someone commenting on the weather. "I got weak, got sick, been here about a week but I feel a lot better now. I get out tomorrow."

That was Feb. 3 and McKee shifted gears to talk about star broodmares Holy Pow Wow, Ghost Canyon and others, marveled at the success of his stallion Fiber Sonde and otherwise talked horses, the business, the future.

The West Virginia breeder, owner, trainer and leader died about three weeks later. He was 83 and rarely had a day without horses on his mind.

Born in 1939 in Kearneysville, W.Va., McKee graduated high school in 1957 and spent his youth working at White's Grocery Store and the Charles Town Livestock Sale in addition to baling hay and straw and raising horses and Black Angus and Pinzgauer cattle. He served in the Navy for seven years with two tours as an aviator in Guam and ultimately a Navy recruiter.

With a single horse, McKee became a trainer in 1969 and built his business into a West Virginia leader – breeding, raising, owning and training some of the state's top horses. Top runners were Rachel's Turn, Waller, Chez Allie, So So, No Change, Bridging the Gap and Aye a Song. In the early 1970s, McKee established the original Beau Ridge Farm in Bunker Hill and later moved to Middleway where he stood multiple stallions including the standout Fiber Sonde.

McKee and his partner of 45 years Cyndy O'Bannon McKee bought the unraced son of Unbridled's Song – and half-brother to leading sire Speightstown – for $8,000 at Keeneland in 2007 and watched him become a West Virginia legend as the sire of some of the state's leading racehorses including Muad'dib, Runnin'toluvya, Late Night Pow Wow, Moonlit Song, Penguin Power, No Change and a slew of others.

According to Equibase statistics starting in 1976, McKee trained the winners of 1,328 races (nearly all in the Mid-Atlantic) with highs of 55 in 2022 and 50 in 2000. McKee's runners earned just shy of $17.8 million in purses.

McKee worked diligently to promote West Virginia Thoroughbreds and was involved in a number of leadership positions including board positions with the West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association, West Virginia Breeders Classics and Charles Town HBPA.

The family's obituary summed up McKee's life with a simple message: "John McKee lived his life with no regrets, he had a wonderful and complete life," the family obituary included. "He was loved by everyone who knew him and had a smile for all. He was generous, kind and always objective. We are sad to see him leave, but have peace knowing that he lived the life that he was intended."

McKee was preceded in death by his parents John Howard McKee and Elizabeth Sowers (Burch) McKee Boyd, brother Henry Burch McKee and aunt Isabella Ebersole. McKee is survived by his wife Cyndy and numerous cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to the Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson County, WV, P.O. Box 147, Charles Town, WV 25414 or Aftercare Charles Town, P.O. Box 136, Ranson, WV 25438.

John A. Casey

West Virginia breeder, owner and trainer John A. Casey, also the manager of his family's Taylor Mountain Farm, died March 3, two months after his father, breeder/owner/trainer James W. Casey died at age 92.

John Casey was born in 1961, graduated from James Wood High School in 1980 and became a blacksmith before following his father (and mother Eleanor Casey) deeper in the Thoroughbred industry. John Casey saddled his first runner as an official trainer in 1997 and won a career-high 27 races in 2014 while typically sending horses out to fewer than 150 starts in a single season. Homebred mare Down Town Allen was the unquestioned stable star, winning 25 of 42 lifetime starts (all but one in West Virginia) and earning $1,029,387.

The family obituary included, "John had a great love of life and enjoyed each day to the fullest. He took great pride in managing Taylor Mountain Farm. There was no place he would rather be whether making hay, working in his shop, or just fixing something, John was in his element . . . He was blessed to have many good friends which he enjoyed spending time with. He was a loyal friend and enjoyed lending a helping hand whenever needed. John loved his family and shared an especially close relationship with his son Allen, who he lovingly referred to as 'my number one helper.' Being a father was John's greatest joy."

Surviving with his wife, Kristy, is his son, Allen William Casey; a sister, Ann McDonald Casey; and a brother, Dr. James Michael Casey.

Memorial contributions may be made to Aftercare Charles Town, P.O. Box 136, Ranson, WV 25438 or to the Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson County, WV, P.O. Box 147, Charles Town, WV 25414.

James W. 'Woody' Maloney Jr.

James W. "Woody" Maloney Jr., former steeplechase jockey and official, died Feb. 5 in Aiken, S.C. He was 69.

The son of Hall of Fame trainer James W. Maloney grew up with horses in New York, southern California and Saratoga Springs, N.Y. After graduating from The Gunnery school in Washington, Conn., in 1972, he next graduated from Menlo Junior College near Palo Alto, Calif.

He galloped horses for his father and became a steeplechase jockey in 1976, finding his first win at Saratoga that summer and had moderate success. His best year as a jockey came in 1981 when he won 18 steeplechase races and four flat races from 91 rides, finishing second to John Cushman (26 jump wins) in the standings.

"He never got into a big stable, which would hold you back," said Cushman, who won four consecutive riding championships while teaming up with the biggest stables on the circuit. "He was picking up rides, and winning races. He was a very, very fit athlete and got a lot of run out of horses. He was strong, really strong, and that helped him ride horses."

Maloney finished with 33 steeplechase wins and eight National Steeplechase Association flat victories.

After riding, Woody trained horses briefly before obtaining a degree from the University of South Carolina and a Master of Science in geology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He was a teaching assistant, lab manager and geologist who worked to mitigate the effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.

He returned to steeplechasing recently, as a safety steward, assistant starter and patrol judge at various race meets.

He is survived by a sister, Shelia Maloney; cousins Chip and Kevin Maloney and former wives Dana Adcock and Susie Bricker. He was preceded in death by his brother, Stewart; his sister, Deborah Ann; his mother Elizabeth "Lib" Maloney and his father.

A memorial celebration is planned in Saratoga July 26. Memorial donations may be made to the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation, 400 Fair Hill Drive, Elkton, MD 21921 or tgsteeplechasefoundation.org.

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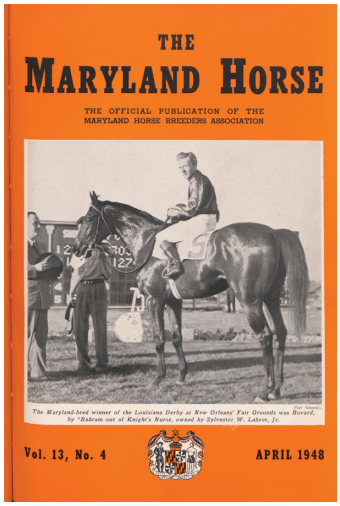
— Looking Back —



75 years ago

■ Bovard - "a big, strapping horse, with long-striding, powerful action [who] appears the sort that will run all day" – won the Louisiana Derby at the Fair Grounds for breeder/owner Sylvester W. Labrot Jr. The Maryland-bred was a son of English Triple Crown winner *Bahram, who was imported by a group that included Labrot. The stallion had since been sold to Argentina interests. The plan was to run Bovard in Louisville and also in the Preakness.

Bovard didn't run in the Kentucky Derby won by Citation, but he did make the Preakness. In the field of four he finished third, 9 lengths behind Citation and a neck better than the accomplished Better Self.

■ Laurel and Bowie announced extensive improvements, including rebuilding the steeplechase and main course at Laurel; and a new water system, additional cinderblock barns and tack rooms, and a new press box for Bowie.

■ Early Kentucky Derby nominees included a number of Maryland-based contenders. William Woodward's Belair Stud had four, including Whirling Fox. William L. Brann named *Challenger II's son Escadru. Ray Bryson nominated Equibit, winner of the Pimlico Nursery. Alan T. Clarke's Fritz Maisel, named for the former Oriole ballplayer and close friend of the breeder/owner, and winner of the Bowie Breeders' Stakes, was listed, as well as Labrot's Bovard and Alfred Vanderbilt's Loser Weeper.

■ Joe Palmer gave a report from the Carolina training centers, commenting on Alfred Vanderbilt's nearly two dozen horses at Aiken. And he noted of Camden: "[It] is the one center where steeplechasers outnumber flat horses. The biggest of the jumping stables are Mrs. Marion Scott's Montpelier, trained by Ray Woolfe, and that of Mrs. Esther duPont Weir, trained by James E. Ryan. I cannot say about the horses, but Ryan, as a spinner of stories, is further along than I ever saw him in early March."

■ The New York-based Fasig-Tipton Company announced in an advertisement the opening of four new branch offices "designed for your convenience and service" located at Almahurst Farm in Nicholasville, Ky., the Humphrey Finney residence in Towson, Md., Kentmere Farm in Boyce, Va., and in Chicago, Ill.

25 years ago

■ W. Burling Cocks, considered the dean of American steeplechase trainers, died at 82. The five-time National Steeplechase Association champion, with residences in Unionville, Pa., and Camden, S.C., sent out 47 stakes winners, conditioned three-time Eclipse Award winner Zaccio, and retired in 1993 as the sport's second-leading trainer in terms of money won with more than $4 million. In 1985, he was inducted into racing's Hall of Fame. The "consummate horseman," Cocks turned out successful trainers with as much regularity as he did horses: his former pupils were Hall of Fame trainers Mikey Smithwick and Jonathan Sheppard, Hall of Fame steeplechase jockey Paddy Smithwick and Triple Crown-winning trainer Billy Turner.

■ At 82, Carl Hanford, who retired from training in 1969, could still be found around the Delaware Park barn area, "just helping out" his daughter Gail. He sat down to recall his days with Allaire duPont's five-time Horse of the Year and Hall of Famer Kelso. When asked what it was like conditioning a superstar under a microscope, he replied "nerve-wracking".

Hanford took over duPont's Woodstock Farm string in early 1960 and was immediately handed the 3-year-old gelding Kelso, who had a habit of dumping his exercise riders.

Kelso raced through age 9 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame one year later, in 1967. Hanford was inducted in 2006 and said "I'm here because of one horse and one horse only."

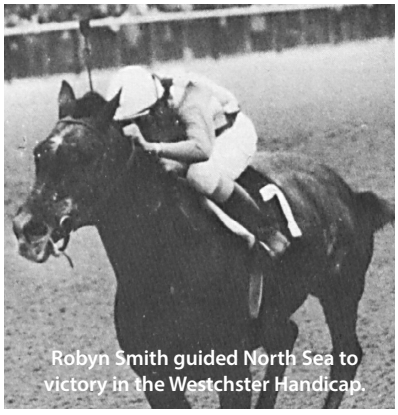
■ After more than 25 years in the business, Hamilton Smith ranked among Maryland's top trainers, winning at 32 percent and saddling more winners than anyone but Dale Capuano, who had started 50 more horses. In Smith's stable was 5-year-old Big Rut, winner of his second stakes of the year, the Harrison E. Johnson Memorial Handicap, and Double Stake, also 5, a recent third in the Maryland Racing Writers' Association Handicap. Both were bred in South Carolina by Othneil H. Wienges, and offspring of Wienges' stallion Kokand. "Had a good summer at Monmouth in the '80s," said Smith. "But this is the best. Yes, it sort of makes the hard times seem worthwhile."

■ Maryland-bred and -sired runners finished one-two in Laurel Park's General George Handicap-G2. Royal Haven (by Hail Emperor), champion Maryland-bred older horse of 1997 making his first start outside of New York in more than two years, notched his third graded stakes victory in a row while defeating Purple Passion (by Northern Raja), who saw a five-race win streak snapped.

■ Hal Handel left his posts as vice president of racing at the Meadowlands and Monmouth Park to become chief executive officer of Philadelphia Park. Jim Gagliano, general manager of administration and operations at Meadowlands, also left that post and followed Handel to become the Bucks County track's new vice-president of operations.

50 years ago

■ Sagamore's success rebounded with Alfred Vanderbilt's homebred North Sea, who sparkled in winning Aqueduct's



Robyn Smith guided North Sea to victory in the Westchster Handicap.

Westchester Handicap in 1:33⅗, a fifth of a second off the 1-mile track record. The 4-year-old son of Nearctic and the Native Dancer mare Look Ma was ridden by Robyn Smith, the only woman jockey to win a stakes race in America.

The stock of the farm's home stallion Restless Native also rose as the sire of stakes winners Silver Doctor, Twixt, Peace Corps and On Your Toes. Said farm manager Frank Alexander of North Sea coming home as a stallion: "We'll definitely need another barn then. With the three stallions we have now I need 120 stalls for visiting broodmares. I just couldn't handle 40 more mares for another stallion without building accommodations for them."

■ Georgia-based Dogwood Farm posted one of its first advertisements inviting inquiries to participate in "a rather intelligent approach to racing" – that of multiple ownership. The plan was to purchase five Maryland-bred racing prospects as yearlings that summer. "They would be broken, prepared for competition and look to take advantage of the financially rewarding Maryland Fund racing in 1974." W. Cothran Campbell was the stable manager.

Campbell's pioneering concept brought in more than a thousand new owners and landed him in the National Racing Hall of Fame in 2018 as a Pillar of the Turf, three months before his death in Aiken, S.C., at age 91.

■ Silver Doctor, winner of five straight including the Prince George's Stakes, helped put the spotlight on breeder/owner Anderson Fowler, and his daughter Binny and son-in-law Eddie Houghton's Buckingham Farm on Maryland's eastern shore. Silver Doctor (by Restless Native) was a son of Silver Abbey, a Fowler-bred winner he initially gave to trainer Joe Kulina as a broodmare prospect. When Kulina decided to get out of breeding business, Fowler took the mare back. Fowler named the offspring of Silver Abbey for "flys used in salmon fishing," including the mare's current 2-year-old, an unraced daughter of Nearctic named Silver Betsy. "Joe [Kulina] likes her, and so do we," said Eddie Houghton. "She could be something special."

Silver Betsy, Silver Abbey's last foal, won seven races, but more importantly became the dam of three stakes horses from five named foals. She was the third dam of Kentucky Derby-G1 winner Barbaro.

■ Warren A. "Jimmy" Croll Jr. was announced as the judge of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's 39th annual Yearling Show. Croll trained two 1973 Preakness nominees – Royal and Regal and Mr. Prospector. He also trained champions Forward Gal and Parka and such top performers as Al Hattab, Sub Pet, Sharpsburg, Scimitar and Like a Charm.

■ Martha Jenney's $5,500 Timonium yearling sale purchase, Maryland-bred Inkslinger, was the star of the 1973 Cheltenham National Hunt Festival Meeting in England. Winner of the 1971 Colonial Cup, Inkslinger was sent over by Mikey Smithwick to contest the Irish Sweeps Hurdle (in which he finished fifth). Staying in Ireland with Smithwick's cousin Dan Moore, Inkslinger won the 2-mile Champion Chase and, two days later, was even more impressive in taking the Cathcart Cup.

10 years ago

■ Co-owned and trained by Linda Gaudet, 5-year-old Concealed Identity collected the John B. Campbell Handicap to give apprentice jockey Trevor McCarthy his first stakes win. "We rode Trevor's father and we love Mike," said Gaudet. "Along the way, we've given Rosie Napravnik her first stakes win, Ryan Fogelsonger his first, and Mike Luzzi, who lived with us when he was a kid, his first. I told Trevor that he has to carry on the tradition."

■ Joe Clancy profiled steeplechase legend Crompton "Tommy" Smith following his death that March. Smith rode Hall of Famer Jay Trump to three victories in the Maryland Hunt Cup and became the first American rider to win the famed English Grand National in Aintree in 1965. He was 74.

■ The Maryland-bred Thoroughbred Hall of Fame, a collaboration of the Maryland Racing Media Association and Maryland Horse Breeders Association, was unveiled in May to commemorate Maryland's most accomplished racehorses. The committee chose a distinctive dozen for the first class: Challedon, Cigar, Elkridge, Gallorette, Jay Trump and Safely Kept were the only Maryland-breds in the National Racing Hall of Fame; Find and Vertex were included in a comprehensive 1963 vote of state sportswriters who determined the greatest racing Maryland-breds; and Broad Brush, Jameela, Politely and Twixt were the only remaining eligible two-time Maryland-bred Horses of the Year, an honor first awarded in 1962.

PETER WINANTS

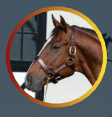
Tommy Smith and Jay Trump winning the 1965 English Grand National.

Same as It Ever Was

Horses and people prepared for a race at the Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point at Atlanta Hall Farm in 1967. The day of racing in Monkton, Md., celebrates its 100th anniversary – a trophy dating to 1923 was recently discovered – this month.

Peter Winants was on staff at *The Maryland Horse* during the 1960s, writing and taking photographs for the magazine before heading to Virginia where he headed up *The Chronicle of the Horse* magazine and later the National Sporting Library. Before his death in 2009, he gifted his prints on file at the MHBA, which have become part of the Maryland Horse Library as The Winants Collection.

2023 STALLION ROSTER



Eclipticalspraline

Ecliptical - Ms. Mostly, by Copelan

» **Multiple Wnr at GP; by a Sire of GSHs and o/o GSW**

$1,500 LF

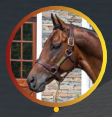
Engage

Into Mischief - Nefertiti, by Speightstown

» **Only GSW by INTO MISCHIEF in Region, $500,000 2YO**

$5,000 LF

FIRST FOALS ARRIVE THIS YEAR



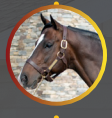
Galawi (IRE)

Dubawi (IRE) - Galikova (FR), by Galileo (IRE)

» **By Top Int'l Sire DUBAWI o/o G1SW 1/2 to GOLDIKOVA**

$2,000 LF

FIRST FOALS ARRIVE THIS YEAR



Golden Lad

Medaglia d'Oro - Broadway Gold, by Seeking the Gold

» **3rd Leading MD Sire in 2022 with $3+ Million in Earnings**

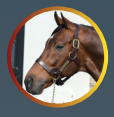
$5,000 LF

Great Notion

Elusive Quality - Evening Primrose, by Dayjur

» **#1 Leading MD Sire Last 5 Years; $85,000+ AE/Runner**

$7,500 LF



Hoppertunity

Any Given Saturday - Refugee, by Unaccounted For

» **#1 1st-Crop Mid-Atl/NE Sire in 2022 by Wnrs & Earnings**

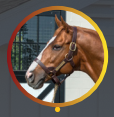
$5,000 LF

Irish War Cry

Curlin - Irish Sovereign, by Polish Numbers

» **#2nd MD Freshman Sire in 2022; Classic-Placed by CURLIN**

$4,500 LF

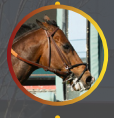


Madefromlucky

Lookin At Lucky - Home From Oz, by Pulpit

» **Peter Pan-G2 Wnr by a Sire of Champions o/o Sister to TAPIT**

$1,500 LF

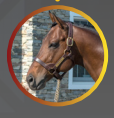


True Valour (IRE) *NEW FOR 2023*

Kodiac (GB) - Sutton Veny (IRE) , by Acclamation (GB)

» **Multiple GSW by 5X Champion European Sire of 2YOs**

$3,000 LF



Uncle Lino

Uncle Mo - Haysee, by Orientate

» **G1 Son of UNCLE MO; #2 2022 MD Sire & #1 3rd-Crop Sire**

$4,000 LF

Northview STALLION STATION

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Paul O'Loughlin: 443.566.2996 (cell), paul@northviewstallions.com
55 Northern Dancer Drive, PO Box 89, Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Virginia has lots of ways to play

Virginia Breeders*

Foal your mare in Virginia and earn Breeder awards for **ANY WIN IN NORTH AMERICA** (in 2022 awards were over 30% of the winning purses.)

Virginia-Bred/Sired/Certified Developers*

VA-Certified Developers:
Developers of VA-Certified horses earn up to a 25% bonus for any win in the Mid-Atlantic region (NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, WV), including NSA-sanctioned meets. VA-Certified Developers earn a 10% bonus for state-bred-restricted races in the Mid-Atlantic region. (Beginning with foals of 2023, bonuses will not be earned for wins in West Virginia).

VA-Bred or Sired Developers:
Beginning with foals of 2021, the developer will earn up to a 25% bonus on wins in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Virginia-Bred/Sired/Certified Owners*

VA-bred or VA-Sired Owners:

- Owners of foals prior to 2021 earn up to a 25% bonus on wins in the Mid-Atlantic region, including NSA-sanctioned meets.
- Owners earn a 50% bonus on purses 1st-4th in all open races at Colonial Downs.
- Increased purses for VA-Restricted races at Colonial Downs.
- Five VA-Bred & VA-Sired stakes at Colonial Downs with $125,000 purses.
- Six VA-Restricted stakes at Colonial Downs with $150,000 purses.

VA-Certified Owners:

- Increased purses for VA-Restricted races at Colonial Downs.
- Six VA-Restricted stakes at Colonial Downs with $100,000 purses.

*See VaBred.org for program details

or contact the Virginia Thoroughbred Association at 434-977-3716